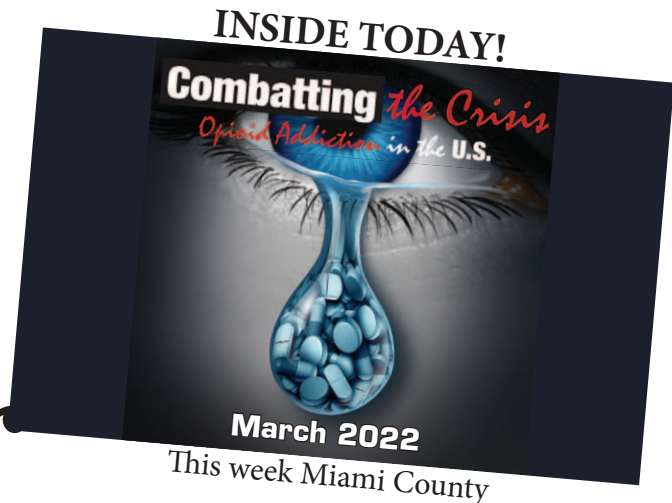


**Inside:** Read the second installment of the series: 'Combatting the Crisis: Opioid Addiction in the U.S.' **Page A6 and A7**

# Wabash Plain Dealer



\$3

Wednesday, March 9, 2022

Tomorrow's weather **50 | 34**



**Pulse**  
of Wabash

## Special section announcement

The Wabash Plain Dealer is publishing a special series each Wednesday until April 6 in collaboration with our regional news group. See pages A6 and A7 for the second part of our five-part series looking into overdoses and substance use disorder. The goal of the section is to increase collaboration to reduce fatal overdoses and drug dependency in north central Indiana. Thank you for your continued support.

## Notice to readers

To reduce risks to our employees and community, the Wabash Plain Dealer is closed to the public until further notice. Payments may be mailed to Wabash Plain Dealer, P.O. Box 309, Marion, IN 46952, or called in. For news, call 260-225-4662 or email [news@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:news@wabashplaindealer.com). For advertising, call 260-225-4947 or email [shoover@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:shoover@wabashplaindealer.com). For circulation and customer support, call 260-563-2131. The Wabash Plain Dealer is committed to providing the best product to its customers and appreciates the support during this time. For more local news content, please visit [wabashplaindealer.com](http://wabashplaindealer.com) where you will find all of the news that could not fit into today's edition. Get your news faster by activating your online account which is included in your print subscription rates. Our stories appear online in an easy-to-read format as they are completed. Thank you for your support through this pandemic.

## Second Harvest to hold tailgate food distributions

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana has planned tailgate food distributions for 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 23 at Bachelor Creek Church of Christ, 2147

See **PULSE**, page A3

## Inside

Classified, A8 Sports, B1  
Comics, A4 Crisis, A6  
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# Gas prices hit an all-time high

Local gas stations report \$4.25 as of Tuesday afternoon

By **ROB BURGESS**  
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

The average price of gasoline in the U.S. hit a record \$4.17 per gallon Tuesday as the country banned Russian oil imports after its invasion of Ukraine.

And by Tuesday afternoon, almost all local gas stations were selling at prices higher

than that.

As of Tuesday afternoon, GasBuddy recorded the lowest price for sale in Indiana as \$3.64 per gallon, and the average as being \$4.23 per gallon. Locally, all but one Wabash gas station, which was still listed as \$3.99 per gallon, had been upped to around \$4.25 per gallon.

The national average rose by 10 cents per gallon in one day, and it's up 55 cents since last week, according to AAA data. The previous high was set 13 years ago

when the national average price hit \$4.10 per gallon.

The amount of U.S. gasoline in storage fell last week as demand starts to tick higher with summer approaching. The increase in gas demand and with inventories trending lower is contributing to rising prices at the pump, but skyrocketing oil prices are playing an increasingly large role as the conflict in Ukraine escalates.

The price of benchmark U.S. crude jumped 8 percent Tuesday to more than \$129

per barrel.

Americans can expect the current trend at the pump to continue as long as crude prices climb, the AAA said.

## How gas taxes figure into the price

The prospect of temporarily eliminating the state and federal gas tax has been floated by Democrats in both the Indiana Senate and U.S. Senate. However, those taxes account for only a relatively small portion of the price.

Currently, the federal excise tax is 18.4 cents per gallon, the state excise tax was 30 cents per gallon and the gas use sales tax is 18.4 cents per gallon.

Mayor Scott Long said the state gas use sales tax is set at the beginning of the month by the state for that month.

"There are no county or city taxes applied to a gallon of gas, or for that matter any item that is available in a retail setting," said Long.

See **GAS**, page A3

## ROOTING FOR HIS BIG SISTER



Photo by Greg Dannacher / Plain Dealer

On Friday, Feb. 25, Kingston Lane, 2, roots for the Manchester Squires and his big sister, Carleigh, who is a cheerleader for MHS. Kingston is the son of Casey and Nicole Lane, of North Manchester.

## Local leaders react to Biden's bans Russian oil imports

Republicans turn focus to increasing domestic energy production

By **ROB BURGESS**  
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Rising gas prices come as President Joe Biden has decided to ban Russian oil imports, toughening the toll on Russia's economy in retaliation for its invasion of Ukraine.

"We will not be part of subsidizing Putin's war," Biden declared, calling

the new action a "powerful blow" against Russia's ability to fund the ongoing offensive.

The U.S. imports about 100,000 barrels a day from Russia, only about 5 percent of Russia's crude oil exports, according to Rystad Energy. Last year, roughly 8 percent of U.S. imports of oil and petroleum products came from Russia.

Curbs on Russian oil exports will likely send already soaring oil and gasoline prices higher in both the U.S. and Europe

See **OIL**, page A2

## Chronicle-Tribune names Keever executive editor

### STAFF REPORT

Paxton Media Group's Central Indiana News Group Publisher Kelly Miller announced Monday that she has named Jared Keever as executive editor of the group.

In his new role, Keever will oversee news operations at the Marion Chronicle-Tribune, Peru Tribune, Frankfort Times, Huntington Herald-Press and Wabash Plain Dealer.

He replaces outgoing executive editor Andrew

Maciejewski who recently accepted a position with a newspaper in Colorado.

"Jared brings with him the experience we need to continue to grow our readership and business model," Miller said. "Jared has most recently been our editor in the Peru, Indiana market. His



KEEVER

See **KEEVER**, page A2

## WHS announces Kathy Swan Award winners

Students do not apply, but are nominated by their teachers

By **ROB BURGESS**  
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Wabash High School (WHS) has announced their annual Kathy Swan Award winners in honor of the late teacher, said assistant principal Jeffery R. Galley.

This year's Kathy Swan Award winners for WHS are freshman Lacie Jones, sophomore Karina Hernandez, junior Isaiah Cavins and senior Brenden Rowan. The four were honored at the Monday, March 7 Wabash City

Schools board meeting.

Galley said the Kathy Swan Awards were started in spring 2006 "in memory of the late, beloved" WHS business teacher Kathy Swan "who was tragically lost" in an airplane accident in September 2005 at the age of 54. According to WTHR, the single-engine plane went down in a bean field. Police say she, her husband, their son and a friend all died. The plane's right wing touched the ground, causing it to flip and catch fire in a bean field near the Wabash Airport.

"Following the accident, Wabash City Schools wished

See **AWARDS**, page A3

## Honeywell Center to host Wabash FAME Festival

Student performances and art will be on display Saturday, March 14

By **ROB BURGESS**  
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

The last couple of years has been rather quiet for the local chapter of FAME (Foundation for Art and Music in Education).

"We've had a two-year break in our scheduling because of COVID-19," said Wabash FAME director Judy Ward.

But, now, Ward said they

were "looking forward" to once again hosting this year's FAME Festival from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 19 at the Honeywell Center.

Ward said student performances including piano, vocal and dance; student art displays; and workshops featuring guest musicians, dancers and visual artists, will all be a part of the Wabash FAME Festival.

Ward said this will be the 14th festival of this kind in Wabash, and that admission to the festival and participation in most activities is free.

Ward said this year's festival theme is "The Jazz Era," highlighting music and dance from the 1920s, '30s and '40s. Special guest music artists will be Rod Noftsgen's Fascinating Rhythm Band. Noftsgen is from Plymouth and his band members are from various cities in northern Indiana. The 10 members play standard swing and jazz standards, such as songs made popular by Glenn Miller, Duke Ellington, Count Basie and Frank Sinatra. The band recently performed at the

See **FAME**, page A2



**Paul Markiewicz**  
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FAME

From page A1

Dick Quigley Jazz Festival in Peru and in Warsaw with Denver Bierman of Denver and the Mile High Orchestra. Noftsgier has performed professionally all over the world, including Nashville, Tennessee where he performed for over 20 years both as a bandleader and as a featured trumpet soloist. Ward following the jazz theme, Dr. Jason Gornito from Peru “will entertain throughout the day” on the baby grand piano in the lobby at Honeywell Center. Ward said Gornito “is a well-known and respected musician who loves to play jazz music and improvise on the keys” He is the vocal music director at Peru High School and has recently been contracted to be the director for Wabash Area Community Theater’s production of “Guys and Dolls” in September.

Ward said for dance enthusiasts, two local dance studios will present half-hour dance workshops for students and adults to learn how to dance two styles of jazz. Wabash Valley Dance Theater’s Lisa Mattern-Billings will teach Charleston dance at a 10:30 a.m. workshop in Ford Theater. Andrea Latham from Playhouse Studio of Dance will teach Fosse style of jazz at 1 p.m. on stage in the theater.

The jazz musicians and dancers will perform during the Spotlight Concert at the end of the day in the 3 p.m. closing concert.

Ward said guest visual artists will teach 45-minute workshops throughout the day. Local artist Susan Stewart will teach sessions of block printing in the Crystal Room downstairs at Honeywell Center starting at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Participation will be limited to 20 students aged 7 or older. Adults may participate if the session is not filled with students.

“Participants will design their own cardboard block and then use that block for creating their print,” said Ward. “Susan is well-known in the Wabash area as an artist using fused glass in many of her projects, including the Wabash County ornament from the Visit Wabash office for

Christmas 2020. She likes many avenues of artistic expression, has been a professional photographer, a jewelry designer, and an artist using various media.”

Stewart currently teaches at St. Bernard Elementary School and guest teaches in the Home School Art classes.

Ward said Debbie Stouffer is a self-proclaimed “do-it-yourself” artist, studying art through 4-H, high school and college.

“She likes to explore all mediums and canvases. Her workshop students will stamp designs on cloth using fabric paint,” said Ward.

Ward said participants in Stouffer’s sessions may bring a pair of jeans to paint, if they want or they may paint a drawstring tote bag that will be provided. Sessions will begin at 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. in the Nixon Room downstairs at the center. Participation is limited to 25 people for each session.

Student music performances will be in Legacy Hall during the morning hours. Carolyn Stoner from the Honeywell Arts staff will lead a ukulele how-to session at 9 a.m., followed by the Wabash Middle School strings at 9:30 a.m., directed by Kaitlyn Whinery. Southwood Kindergarten students will sing at 10 a.m., led by teacher Lisa Fadil; Wabash Middle School sixth grade choir at 10:30 a.m., directed by Mark Nevil; O. J. Singers directed by Jennifer Denney and Dual Immersion students singing a Spanish song led by teacher Rafa Camaras will be at 11:30 a.m. The Southwood Jr./Sr. High Swing Band, directed by Lindsay Knee, will perform at 1 p.m., followed by the workshop and performance by the Fascinating Rhythm Band.

Student dancers from Wabash Valley Dance Theater will perform at 10 a.m. in Ford Theater.

Students from private music studios will perform in the Honeywell Room during the morning. Students of these teachers with performances times are Eileen Dye and Kris Stephens at 9 a.m., Judy Ward at 9:30 a.m., Peggy Coppler at 10 a.m., Jennifer Denney and Sarah Okuly at 10:30 a.m., and Mary and Ruth Berkebile at 11 a.m.

Ward said student art projects will be on display in the lobby at Honeywell Center. Schools and teachers presenting artwork are Home-Schooled Art Class – Charly Dye, Judy Ward, and guest teachers; L. H. Carpenter Center – Lori Render; Metro North Elementary – Katy Gray; O. J. Neighbours Elementary – Aubrey Davis; St. Bernard Elementary – Susan Stewart; Sharp Creek Elementary – Katy Gray; Southwood Elementary – Erica Tyson; Wabash Middle School – Krystyna Martin.

Ward said winning poster designs submitted by area students will be framed and on display. This year’s winners are Madeline Cordes, grade eight, Home-Schooled Art – Charly Dye, Judy Ward, and guest teachers; Emaline Cordes, grade 11, Home-Schooled Art–Charly Dye, Judy Ward, and guest teachers; Tytus Dawes, grade two, Metro North Elementary – Katy Gray, teacher; Faith Krom, grade seven, Northfield Jr./Sr High – Adam Zwiebel, teacher; Mackenzie Southwick, grade eight, Northfield Jr./Sr. High – Adam Zwiebel, teacher; Augie Higgins, grade six, St. Bernard Elementary – Susan Stewart, teacher.

Ward said FAME (was founded in 1986 with its first festival in 1987. The organization sponsors arts activities for students in elementary and junior high and middle schools in northern Indiana. The parent organization is in Fort Wayne with headquarters in the Auer Center for Art and Culture in downtown Fort Wayne.

“Wabash’s festival is supported by grants and donations and is expected to be self-supporting in its finances,” said Ward.

Ward said the local planning committee, which she heads, “appreciates the support of various foundations, businesses and individuals who support FAME with monetary donations.”

Major supporters this year include Ford Meter Box Foundation, Honeywell Foundation, Wabash Cannonball Chili for Charity, Wabash chapter of Kappa, Kappa, Kappa and the Wabash County United Fund.

*Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.*

KEEVER

From page A1

exceptional work at that property will provide a seamless transition for our group. We are thrilled to have someone of Jared’s caliber leading our newsrooms.”

“I have long believed that newspapers are the glue that holds a community together,” Keever said Monday. “My goal is to keep our papers focused on local issues and to make sure that we are doing the kind of journalism that makes people excited about picking up their paper.”

Keever was born and raised in Indiana. He got started in news while living in southeast Georgia, and later took a job in Florida as a crime reporter for the St. Augustine Record. He accepted his position at the Peru Tribune in 2019 when he and his family moved back to Indiana.

He lives in Sheridan with his wife, Kim, and their two children.






“I look forward to working with Jared on a daily basis to ensure the Chronicle-Tribune grows into the community leader Grant County deserves,” Miller said.



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### 5-Day Weather Summary

 <b>Wednesday</b> Partly Cloudy 49 / 29	 <b>Thursday</b> Partly Cloudy 50 / 34	 <b>Friday</b> Scattered Rain 46 / 17	 <b>Saturday</b> Partly Cloudy 27 / 18	 <b>Sunday</b> Partly Cloudy 46 / 34
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#### Sun and Moon

Today's sunset ..... 6:44 p.m.  
Tomorrow's sunrise ..... 7:02 a.m.

 First 3/10	 Full 3/18	 Last 3/25	 New 4/1
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#### Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see partly cloudy skies, high temperature of 49°, humidity of 56%. West northwest wind 3 to 9 mph. Expect mostly clear skies tonight, overnight low of 29°. East wind 3 to 7 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 25°. Thursday, skies will be partly cloudy, high of 50°, humidity of 53%.

Salamonie Preschool offers ‘B is for Birds’ on Wednesday, March 16

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Preschool’s “B is for Birds” from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 16 at Salamonie Interpretive Center located in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area, 3691 S. New Holland Road, Andrews, according to interpretive naturalist Teresa Rody.

“How are birds different from other wildlife that calls Salamonie Lake home?” stated Rody. “Children ages 2 – 5 and their adults are welcome to attend the class. Each program is designed to enhance the preschooler’s basic education, including music, crafts, social interaction and time outdoors,

always with a nature-related theme.”

The program fee is \$2 per child. Advance registration is appreciated. Register by calling Upper Wabash Interpretive Services at 260-468-2127.

For more information, visit <https://on.IN.gov/salamonielake> or [dnr.IN.gov](mailto:dnr.IN.gov).

OIL

From page A1

and further squeeze consumers, businesses, financial markets and the global economy.

Energy analysts warn that crude oil prices could go as high to \$160 or even \$200 a barrel due to oil sanctions imposed by the West or if buyers continue shunning Russian crude.

Oil prices that high could send an average gallon of U.S. gasoline past \$5 a gallon.

In response to Biden’s announcement local Republican leaders in Washington, D.C. called for increased domestic oil production.

“Today’s announcement is a needed step, but we must do more to help American consumers and strike a blow against Russia’s war machine,” said Sen. Todd Young, R-Indiana.

“Before turning to brutal regimes like Iran or Venezuela to replace Russian oil, we should open the spigot on American energy. Through smart energy production, we can fulfill our domestic needs while simultaneously exporting oil and gas to our allies and decreasing their dependence on Russian energy. I urge the Administration to reverse its policies of the past 14 months that have led to steadily increasing domestic energy prices and take sensible steps like reopening the Keystone pipeline and eliminating restrictions on U.S. oil and gas production. The price increases facing every American at the pump can be mitigated by accelerating production of our domestic energy resources.”

Sen. Mike Braun, R-Indiana, also took the opportunity to criticize Biden’s energy policies while supporting the move to ban Russian oil imports themselves. Braun said he had “been calling to unleash

American energy since the Biden administration first stopped prioritizing energy independence” including passing an amendment through the Senate to stop bans on fracking in February 2021.

Braun said he had supported shutting down the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline in May 2021 and supported banning Russian oil imports following the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Like Young, Braun also cited the now-shuttered Keystone XL pipeline.

“I’m glad President Biden has finally come around to shutting down Russian energy imports, but gas prices were going up before this invasion because the Biden administration strangled American energy. We must replace Russian oil and gas with energy made in America – not Venezuela, not Iran, not Saudi Arabia – America,” said Braun.

Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-Indiana struck a similar note as she called on Biden “to end his administration’s longstanding assault on American-made energy, restore our nation’s energy independence, and end reliance on foreign adversaries to secure our energy supply and cut costs for Hoosier families.”

“Gas prices started skyrocketing long before Putin invaded Ukraine – this crisis began the day Joe Biden signed radical executive orders that stopped America’s record-breaking energy production, inflicted burdensome Obama-era regulations on America’s energy industry, killed good-paying jobs, and made our nation more reliant on foreign adversaries like Russia,” said Walorski. “With gas prices hitting new highs every day, Hoosier families can’t afford the steep cost of Biden’s anti-energy agenda. Hardworking Americans can fuel our nation. I’m calling on Biden to end his full-scale assault on domestic energy pro-

duction today and unleash the full power of American-made energy to make our nation safer, stronger, and more resilient.”

Walorski listed several pieces of legislation, including ones regarding the Keystone XL Pipeline, as part of her work in Congress on the issue, including that she Co-sponsored H.R. 6886, the Powering America through Domestic Energy Act, to ban American imports of crude oil and petroleum products from Russia while also prohibiting Biden from declaring and implementing a moratorium on the use of hydraulic fracturing or on oil and gas leasing on federal lands unless Congress authorizes the moratorium; co-sponsored the American Energy Independence from Russia Act, which would immediately approve the Keystone XL pipeline, “unleash” U.S. liquid natural gas (LNG) exports to boost natural gas production, restart oil and gas leasing on federal lands and waters, and protect energy and mineral development “from attacks by the Biden administration”; co-sponsored the Never Yielding Europe’s Territory (NYET) Act, which would sanction Russia’s energy industry and stop construction of Nord Stream 2 in addition to other provisions to impose costs on Putin and support Ukraine; and co-sponsored the Keystone XL Pipeline Construction and Jobs Preservation Act to authorize the construction and operation of the Keystone XL Pipeline.

Walorski said she “supports renewed utilization of pipelines, fracking and all domestic sources of energy production to prioritize an ‘all-of-the-above’ approach to energy security.”

*The Associated Press contributed to this story. Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.*

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# Obituaries

## PULSE

From page A1

Indiana 15; and noon Wednesday, March 9 at Manchester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley St., North Manchester. For more information, visit [www.curehunger.org](http://www.curehunger.org), [classy.org/campaign/hunger-action-month/c299182](http://classy.org/campaign/hunger-action-month/c299182) or <https://www.givepulse.com/group/203410>.

### Grow Wabash County's annual Salute to Ag Dinner will be Wednesday

The 2022 Salute to Ag Dinner will take place at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 9 at the Heartland REMC building, 350 Wedcor Ave. Tickets are \$25 each and sponsorship opportunities are available ranging from \$100 up to \$2,500. Register by visiting [www.growwabashcounty.com/ag2022](http://www.growwabashcounty.com/ag2022), by emailing [marketing@growwabashcounty.com](mailto:marketing@growwabashcounty.com) or by calling 260-563-5258.

### Metro North and Southwood to hold kindergarten round-ups

Kindergarten round-ups have been announced for Southwood and Metro North elementary schools and MSD is ready to welcome the Class of 2035. Children who will be at least 5 years of age on or before Aug. 1 are eligible to participate in kindergarten for the 2022-2023 school year. This year's MSD kindergarten round-ups will take place on Wednesday, March 9 at Southwood Elementary School, 840 E. Indiana 124, and Thursday, March 10 at Metro North Elementary School, 3844 W. 200 North. To accommodate social distancing, families will be assigned an arrival time based on their availability. Guests should be limited to only one or two adult guardians with the child. Guardians should bring a copy of the child's official birth certificate and vaccination records with them. For younger students, it's also time to begin enrollment for the 2022-2023 Little Norse and Little Knights Preschool programs. Children who will be either ages 3 or 4 by Aug. 1 are eligible to enroll. Preschool tuition is around \$17 per day, but financial assistance is also available for qualifying families through the CCDF and On My Way PreK programs. Students will attend classes from Monday through Friday for either a half or full-day, and follow the regular MSD school year calendar. For more information, visit [www.msdlw.org](http://www.msdlw.org) or contact Southwood Elementary School Principal Phil Boone by phone at 260-563-8050 or by email at [boonepr@msdlw.k12.in.us](mailto:boonepr@msdlw.k12.in.us) or Metro North Elementary Principal Janet Moore by phone at 260-563-8050 or by email at [moorej@msdlw.k12.in.us](mailto:moorej@msdlw.k12.in.us).

### NMHS and Shepherd's Center sponsoring Smokey Mountain Redneck Tour

The North Manchester Historical Society (NMHS) and the Shepherd's Center will be traveling Monday, May 16 to Thursday, May 16 to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee for five live shows, an afternoon at Dollywood, free time at The Island, three dinners including Applewood Restaurant and Five Oaks Farm Kitchen during their Smokey Mountain Redneck Tour. Three nights of first-class lodging will be offered, including breakfasts. The cost of the four-day trip is \$825 per person double occupancy and \$995 as a single and includes luxury coach, tours, snacks, luggage handling and any tips and taxes. Reservations are due by Thursday, March 10. For more information, contact tour coordinator Bernie Ferringer by mail at P.O. Box 361, North Manchester, IN 46962; by email at [bernieferringer@gmail.com](mailto:bernieferringer@gmail.com) or by phone at

260 982-8734.

### Emmanuel Christian School plans annual carnival

Emmanuel Christian School has planned its annual carnival from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Friday, March 11 at 129 Southwood Drive. This year we will feature food trucks from Tim's Thai 2 Go, Veteran's BBQ and Red Barn Elephant Ear. Inside will be inflatables, games and food for all ages. Wristbands are \$12 for kids and will include access to all inflatables and games, as well as a hot dog, chips and a drink. The live auction will begin at 6:30 p.m. For more information, visit the ECS Spring Carnival and Auction page on Facebook.

### Manchester Values, Ideas and the Arts series continues

Presentations are at 11 a.m. Mondays in Cordier Auditorium on the North Manchester campus unless otherwise noted. All except the "Spaces" concert are free and open to the public. Masks and social distancing are required. Other presentations will also be live-streamed on the Manchester Facebook page. Check the schedule at [www.manchester.edu/academics/VIA](http://www.manchester.edu/academics/VIA) for updates. March 14 – "PeaceTech: Engineering to Change the World" by Zia Haque. April 4 – "Manchester and the United Nations: The Legacy of Andrew Cordier" by Manchester seniors Christopher Carroll and Omar Gadzhiev. April 11 – In "CommuniKate: Artalive," Kate Billingsley offers a comic performance. April 18 – Alicia Smith presents "Environmental Justice & Community Democracy – BIPOC & Beyond." April 25 – Mary Miller, CEO and owner of JANCOA Janitorial Services, will speak in "Dream Big." May 2 – "Trailblazers: Honoring Manchester's First Black Students" is the keynote address on the day Manchester is naming the Academic Center in honor of siblings Martha and Joseph Cunningham. May 9 – Manchester seniors will talk about their senior honors theses. May 15 at 3 p.m. in Cordier – Violist Derek Reeves performs the world premiere of "Spaces," a concerto composed for him by Professor Debra Lynn, director of choral organizations and vocal studies at Manchester.

### Applications open for Manley Music Scholarship

The Manley Scholarship was established in 1998 by the estate of Olive Manley, a local Wabash resident, to encourage and promote music among Wabash High School (WHS) graduates pursuing a career in music. Any person who is attending or has graduated from WHS, and is enrolled or intends to enroll in a post-high school educational institution to pursue a career in music – music composition, music technology, music performance, musical theater, music therapy – or music education, is eligible to apply for a scholarship from the Manley Music Scholarship Trust. Scholarships are for one year, and recipients may re-apply annually for a maximum of four years. Applications are due by Tuesday, March 15 and must include the original grade transcript and a letter of reference. Applications may be submitted by mail to WHS, c/o Guidance Office-scholarship application, 580 N Miami St, Wabash IN 46992, re: Manley Music Scholarship. For more information, visit the WHS guidance officer or [whs.apaches.k12.in.us](mailto:whs.apaches.k12.in.us).

### Salamonie Forest Preschool underway

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Forest Preschool through May for one Tuesday a month or two Tuesdays a month from 9 a.m. to noon at Salamonie Interpretive Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews, in Lost Bridge

West State Recreation Area. Classes for the once-a-month option will be held Tuesdays, April 12 and May 3. Classes for the second meeting time each month will also be held Tuesdays, March 15, April 26 and May 17. Advance registration is required. Register by calling 260-468-2127. For more information, visit [dnr.IN.gov/uwis](http://dnr.IN.gov/uwis) or facebook.com/upperwabash.

### St. Trolley's Day Tour on sale

Visit Wabash County has announced the return of the "fan-favorite" St. Trolley's Day Trolley Tour. Tickets are on sale online or in-person at 221 S. Miami St. Ticket buyers will have the option of choosing between a 6 or 7 p.m. time slot for a "fun-filled tour" on Friday, March 11 or Saturday, March 12. For more information, visit [VisitWabashCounty.com/trolley-tours](http://VisitWabashCounty.com/trolley-tours).

### Wabash Kiwanis Club's Pancake Day returns

The Wabash Kiwanis Club's Pancake Day will take place from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 12, at the Wabash County Fairgrounds at the Bruce Ingraham Building, 660 Gillen Ave. Tickets will be \$8 at the door and \$7 in advance for those 13 years and older and \$5 at the door and \$4 in advance for children ages 6 to 12 years. Admission for the event will be free for children 5 years old and younger. Pancakes, with or without blueberries, will be available, along with sausages and drinks. Sponsorship opportunities for businesses for Pancake Day are available by contacting Donna Siders by email at [donnasiders@hotmail.com](mailto:donnasiders@hotmail.com) or by phone at 260-571-1892. Sponsors would receive complimentary tickets to the event and on-site recognition in exchange for their support for \$150.

### Manchester Symphony Orchestra presents Trailblazers

The Manchester Symphony Orchestra under Conductor Debra Lynn continues its 83rd season with Trailblazers at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 13, at the Honeywell Center. It celebrates African-American composer Florence Price and her Symphony No. 1 in E minor. The concert will also feature high school and college winners of the orchestra's concerto competition. Masks and social distancing are required.

### UWIN holding native tree sale

Upper Wabash Invasives Network (UWIN) is holding a second tree sale, including red maples, sweetgum, persimmon, tulip (Indiana State tree), redbud, pawpaw, snowberry, red osier dogwood, spicebush and more. Prices depend on the chosen size and range from \$15 to \$90. To place an order, visit <https://lafontaineilions.com/shop> or email [trody@dnr.in.gov](mailto:trody@dnr.in.gov). The order and payment deadline is Tuesday, March 15. Orders will be available for pick up from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 30 at Brandt's Harley Davidson, 1400 Cass St.

### Paradise Spring Board offers scholarships to local high school seniors

The Paradise Spring Board has announced they will again be offering scholarships to five Wabash County seniors. Each scholarship is worth \$1,000 per student. For this year's scholarship, "high school seniors are invited to research and write an essay about the railroad hub at Paradise Spring Historical Park and how the railroad still impacts us today." Essay packets have been delivered to all public schools in the county or can be requested by email at [ungerdeanna@gmail.com](mailto:ungerdeanna@gmail.com). Winners will be selected from the county schools plus one from the home-schooled, online or alternate school

student groups. To receive the scholarship, the selected winners are also required to present their essays either in person or via video to be used for future programming. Completed essays and cover letters should be returned by Friday, April 1 by mail to Paradise Spring Board, P.O. Box 353, Wabash, IN 46992. For more information, call 260-571-2879.

### Salamonie 'Tweens Among the Trees' Forest School underway

Children ages 6 to 13 are invited to Salamonie Forest School at 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. The class will be offered one Wednesday a month from 9 a.m. to noon at Salamonie Interpretive Center in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area, Andrews. Classes will be held on Wednesday, April 20. Advance registration is required. Limited space is available. Register by calling 260-468-2127. For more information, visit [dnr.IN.gov/uwis](http://dnr.IN.gov/uwis) or facebook.com/upperwabash.

### Guardian Warriors seeks to raise funds through shoe donations

The Guardian Warriors group has launched a shoe collection drive to raise money to help local families, send children to college, an upcoming 9/11 event and more. The shoe donations will also support micro-enterprises in developing nations and "reduce what goes into landfills." The shoe drive, which lasts through May 31, will ultimately earn funds based on the total weight of the shoes collected. Their goal is to collect 2,500 shoes. Funds2Orgs will purchase all the donated footwear. The shoes will then be redistributed throughout the Funds2Orgs network of micro-enterprise partners in developing nations. Those who are interested in donating shoes may send them through the mail to 3789 W. 100 South, Wabash, IN 46992, or call 765-244-8360. They will also have pickup dates available from 9 a.m. to noon Friday, April 1 and Saturday, May 7 at the Miami County Fairgrounds, 1029 W. 200 North, Peru.

### DivorceCare meets Tuesdays

DivorceCare, a 13-week DVD series sponsored by Wabash Friends Counseling Center, features some of the nation's foremost Christian experts on topics concerning divorce and recovery, according to group leader Janet Quillen. The support group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in the Conference Room in the Wabash Friends Counseling Center, 3563 South State Road 13. Wearing a mask is required when entering. Quillen and members of the group meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Subway, 1812 S. Wabash St., on State Road 15. For more information, call 260-563-8453, 877-350-1658, email [office@wabashfriends.org](mailto:office@wabashfriends.org), call 260-571-5235 or visit [www.divorcecare.org](http://www.divorcecare.org).

### Wabash County Animal Shelter partnership to pair emerging readers with dogs, cats

The local Literacy for Companionship program will be held on the third Thursday of each month at the Wabash County Animal Shelter, 810 Manchester Ave. The time will be split into 30-minute shifts from 4 to 6 p.m., with four children scheduled per session. There is no cost for the program and the parents or guardians will be with the children at all times. For more information, call 260-563-3511.

*Editor's note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to [news@wabashplainedealer.com](mailto:news@wabashplainedealer.com) no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.*

## Lozetta May (Sucher) Sundheimer

Nov. 15, 1928 – Feb. 2, 2022

The world lost a sweet, lovely lady on 2/2/2022 as heaven welcomed her.

Lozetta May Sundheimer was born in Butler, Indiana on Nov. 15, 1928 to Charles and Iva (Richmond) Sucher into a family of eight. Zettie, as she liked to be called, had three children; Dina, Stanley and Gaye and lived most of her life in Wabash, Indiana. She was a scholar, voracious reader, a hard worker and a lover of animals. Zettie knew and trusted Jesus and loved everyone she met. She lived her life with a positive attitude and never said an unkind word. She was an Eisenhower Republican but changed parties when the Republicans changed their policies.

Zettie worked to support her family her whole life. She was employed at U. S. Gypsum in Wabash for over 25 years and following retirement from U.S.G., she worked at The Wabash County Hospital where she made many friends.

She is survived by two sisters, Helen Louise (Lou) Plant and Emma Bever; and her three children Dina (Larry) Glass, Stanley (Jeanette) Sundheimer and Gaye (Jim) Haist. Six grandchildren Megan (Chad) Bradley, Katie Sundheimer, Jonathan (Carol) Sundheimer, Molly (Ross) Strong, Sam (Katelyn) Haist and Ben Haist. Twelve great grandchildren Maddie and Brendon Glass, Phoebe and Jack Bradley, Violet, Thatcher and Win-



ston Strong, Harper May and Quinn Sundheimer and Eden, Chloe and Norah Haist.

Zettie was preceded in death by her parents, her two brothers; Charles and Bill, sister Charline Bean and grandson Charlie Glass.

She always put her family first – believing that the greatest gift one could give to family was to spend time with them, listen to them, be caring and encouraging and supportive of their dreams. She loved to have fun and made sure to tell people that she loved them often. This is how she lived her life.

In lieu of flowers you could honor Zettie's memory by donating to any Democrat candidate, an act she would have endorsed wholeheartedly. Or you could donate to American Humane at [americanhumane.org](http://americanhumane.org) to help give the gift of life to animals in need.

The family is planning a private celebration of life to be held in late spring.

## AWARDS

From page A1

to honor her memory and created the Kathy Swan Award," said Galley. "Kathy was a true champion for students, especially students who always had a positive attitude, worked hard and were motivated to do their best without the benefit of recognition day in and day out."

Galley said what made this award special was that students do not apply to be considered.

"Instead, teachers nominate

and vote on the students," said Galley.

Galley said the award is given to a student in each grade level from kindergarten through 12th grade.

Galley said these awards are given out each year "to pay tribute to the honor of Kathy Swan and to provide students a well-deserved recognition for their contributions to Wabash City Schools."

For more information, call 260-563-2151 or visit [www.apaches.k12.in.us](http://www.apaches.k12.in.us).

*Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at [rburgess@wabashplainedealer.com](mailto:rburgess@wabashplainedealer.com).*

## GAS

From page A1

### Markets roiled by Russia's invasion of Ukraine

On Saturday evening, Gas-Buddy head of petroleum analysis Patrick DeHaan said for the first time since 2008, the national average price of gas in the U.S. has surpassed \$4 per gallon. Just in the last week, gas prices have spiked 41 cents per gallon, narrowly missing the record weekly spike. On Friday alone, the national average rose 15 cents.

On Monday, the national average for a gallon of gas was \$4.06, a "staggering" 45 cents more than a week ago, 62 cents more than a month ago and \$1.30 more than a year ago, said AAA spokesperson Molly Hart.

Hart said last week, the International Energy Agency (IEA) announced a coordinated release of crude oil from its 31 member countries' strategic reserves, including

the U.S., Germany, Canada, South Korea, and Mexico, to help counter the impact of rising crude prices. On Friday, IEA said member states committed to releasing a total of 61.7 million bbl from their strategic reserves to reassure markets roiled by the fallout from Russia's invasion of Ukraine. This amount – half of which is expected to come from the U.S. – is the largest coordinated release since IEA was founded in 1974.

"Despite this announcement, the impact on pricing has been limited given that the amount of oil planned for release is small in comparison to the amount that flows daily from Russia to other countries around the globe," said Hart.

According to IEA, Russia exports approximately 5 million barrels per day of crude oil, representing about 12 percent of its global trade.

*The Associated Press contributed to this story. Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at [rburgess@wabashplainedealer.com](mailto:rburgess@wabashplainedealer.com).*

# Gospel Radio Praise



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# Mother eager to reveal son’s true parentage

**DEAR ABBY:** Thirty-two years ago I was seeing two different men. I slept with each of them in the same week and became pregnant. I told them mid-way through the pregnancy that the baby might be theirs. One ditched me. I never heard from him again. The other is my husband of 31 years. We went on to have two more children. I have suspected all along that my oldest son, “Todd,” wasn’t my husband’s biological child. When Todd was 8, we did a DNA test, and I was right.

## Dear Abby



Todd was recently married. I asked him several times before the wedding to tell his future wife his birth story. Todd was adamant in his refusal. He has no interest in meeting his biological father or having a relationship with him. My husband is his dad – period.

I feel guilty for not sharing the truth with Todd’s wife when she asks me questions. She knows Todd was born before my husband and I were married. Todd says it’s his decision and “it’s not a big deal.” I disagree. Should I tell her the truth? If I do, I risk upsetting my son and maybe their marriage. They will have kids in the future, and I think she should know. What do you think I should do? – Knows The Whole Story

**DEAR KNOWS:** You have advised Todd, and he has refused. Respect his decision. Do NOT go behind his back and divulge this information to his wife or you may damage beyond repair the relationship you have with your son.

**DEAR ABBY:** I’m a 24-year-old male. I’ve been seeing this guy, “Kurt,” for four years. He moved to New York to be with me. He’s 17 years older than I am. At first, it was great. We were amazing together. Then we hit some rough patches.

When I went to meet his family in the Midwest, they treated me horribly. My dad was ill, so I came back home. Kurt let me drive the 18 hours by myself, which infuriated me. I want him back, and I’m also scared to be alone. I have talked to other men online and searched for the love and companionship I no longer have with Kurt. We don’t do anything together anymore, and our relationship has been failing for a long time.

How do I tell him I want out of the relationship and think we lost our spark a long time ago? How do I get out of the rut I’m in because I’m scared to end the relationship? – Lost And Confused

**DEAR LOST AND CONFUSED:** At 24, your chances of finding love again are probably better than your 40-year-old partner’s. I don’t know how long you have been living in the rut you described, but life is short. Do not waste more time than you already have on Kurt, who may be as relieved as you to see this romance come to an end.

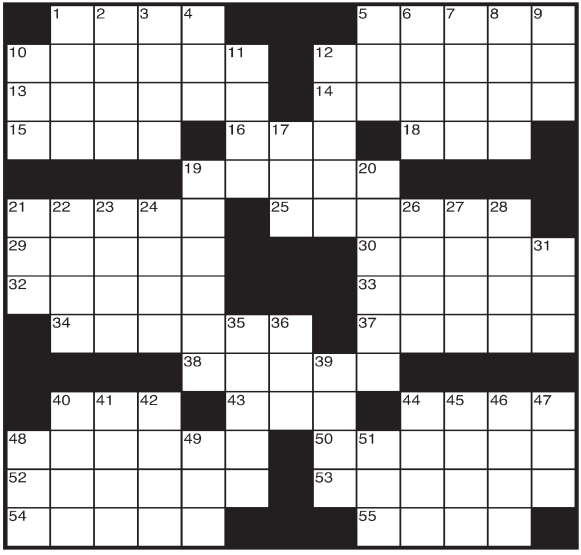
Break the news by telling him calmly that you feel your relationship has been failing for a long time, the spark fizzled out a long time ago and you are calling it quits. Follow it up by saying you hope you will always be “friends,” and move on.

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

## CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Zodiac beast
  - 5 Fine violin
  - 10 Wild dog
  - 12 Silo filler
  - 13 Come into view
  - 14 Dickens waif
  - 15 “I did it!” (hyph.)
  - 16 Std.
  - 18 Sweater sz.
  - 19 Party poopers
  - 21 Mural painter — Rivera
  - 25 Synthetic fabrics
  - 29 Of the past
  - 30 Cornhusker city
  - 32 Go stealthily
  - 33 Pungent veggie
  - 34 Heroes’ horses
  - 37 Whale type
  - 38 Shouts
  - 40 Stuff with soft material
- DOWN**
- 43 Strong alkali
  - 44 Skip
  - 48 Stand up to
  - 50 Attack
  - 52 Clears the board
  - 53 Suspected
  - 54 Numskull
  - 55 Moose cousins

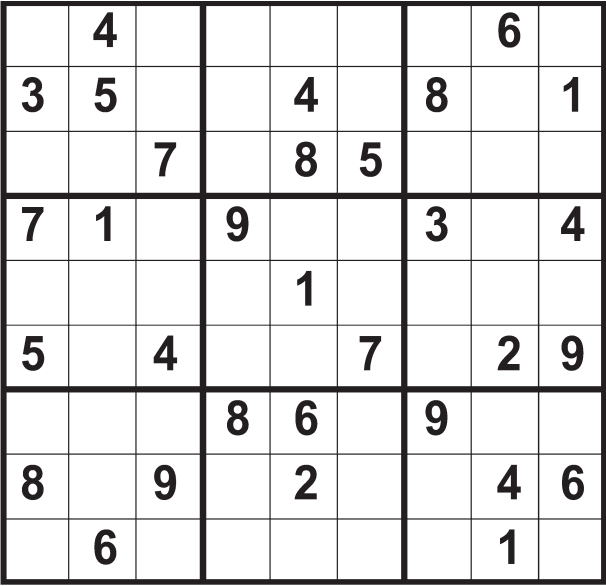
- Answer to Previous Puzzle**
- WEB BMW CORE  
OVA ROAR EMIR  
KEG IOWA LIVE  
ENSIGN PASTE  
CHE GIST  
TIGHT LIEU  
TIRE OLEO SHUT  
CAMO ANNE ORO  
SIBS PENNY  
COPS DOT  
HARMS OCCULT  
ROSE ITCH GOO  
PREY AUKS LUG  
MESS MTIS YDS
- 12 Unclear  
17 Mover’s vehicle  
19 Burro  
20 Pleasure boats  
21 Two, in Tijuana  
22 Misfortunes  
23 Go over proofs  
24 Autry of oaters  
26 Prefix for directional  
27 Fasten permanently  
28 Chase away  
31 Crawling insect
- 35 Shoulder muscles  
36 Crafty  
39 Explorer — Ericson  
40 Bolivia neighbor  
41 Big — elephant  
42 Half of DJ  
44 Plum shape  
45 Judge  
46 Bad day for Caesar  
47 Danson or Turner  
48 Barn color  
49 Date regularly  
51 Bridal notice word



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## SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆



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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION								
8	6	7	2	3	5	1	4	9
2	1	9	8	7	4	5	3	6
3	4	5	9	1	6	2	8	7
1	7	3	4	2	8	6	9	5
5	2	6	7	9	3	4	1	8
9	8	4	6	5	1	7	2	3
7	5	2	3	4	9	8	6	1
6	9	1	5	8	2	3	7	4
4	3	8	1	6	7	9	5	2

## JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

UGEGA

THHCA

SCYMIT

BIRFDO

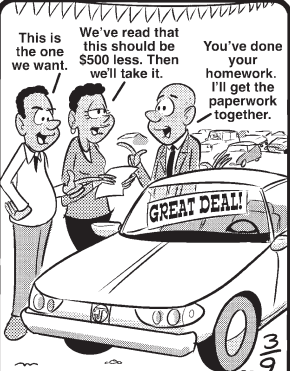
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Answer “ ”

Answer: The addition problems written on the board needed — SOME SUMS

## THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



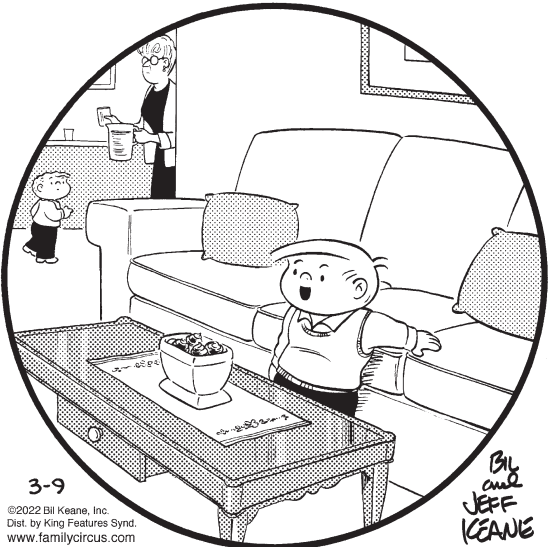
NO ONE TOLD THEM WHAT TO PURCHASE, AFTER SOME RESEARCH, THEY WERE THERE ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

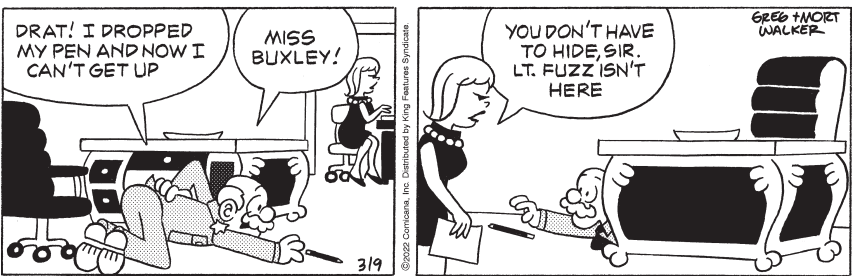
## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



“Grandma, I’ll sleep here on the couch if you want me to.”

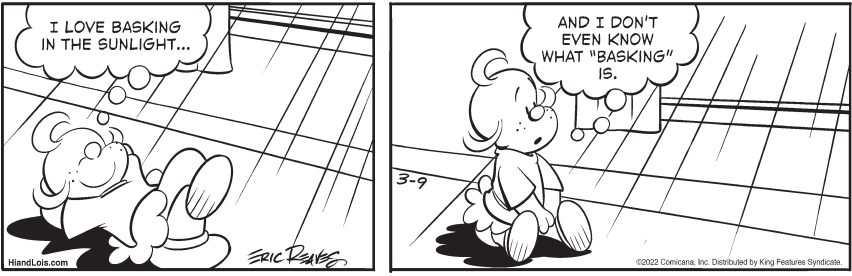
## BEEBLE BAILEY



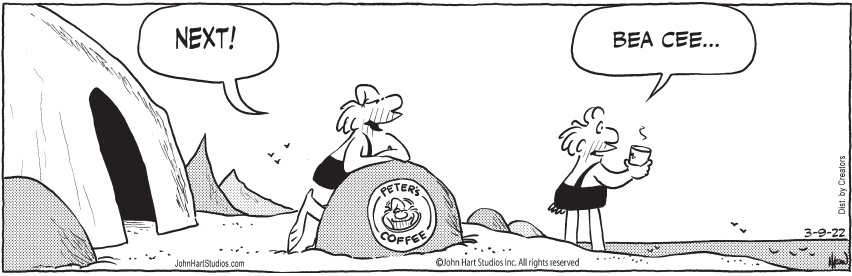
## BLONDIE



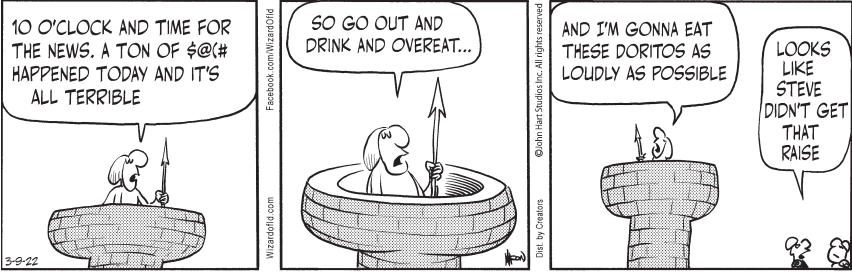
## HI & LOIS



## BC



## WIZARD OF ID



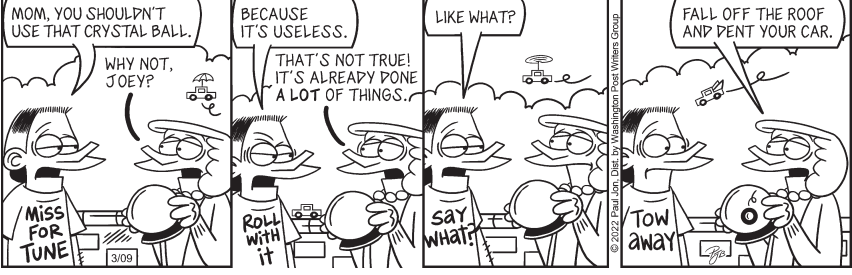
## DILBERT



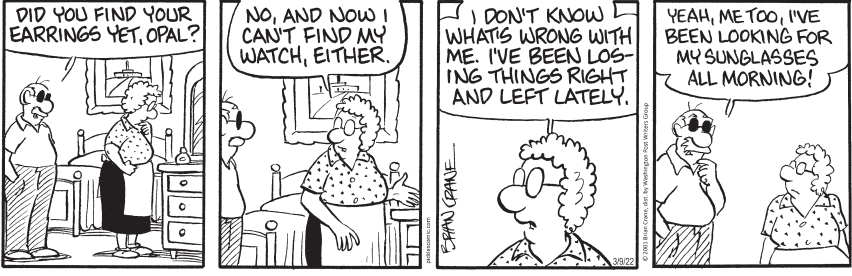
## GARFIELD



## FORT KNOX



## PICKLES

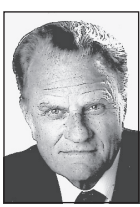


# The world is on God’s timetable

**Q:** My professors have said that man will destroy the world someday. Other professors say that man will ultimately find a way to live in Utopia. Which is it? — F.W.

**A:** Many great scientists said that the world would never reach the 21st century. A Canadian physicist once said that man has the power, if applied in its maximum dosage, to cause the world and all in it to disintegrate in less than one minute. The reality is that the world is ultimately on God’s timetable, and one day Jesus Christ is going to return and bring peace. This is the picture of Utopia that the world does not understand because it will not come by the efforts of man. It will come by the intervention of Almighty God.

## Billy Graham My Answer



You see, we are all hopeless without God. Many search for a way out of trouble but fail to look to the only One who can solve our problems.

The Bible tells of a blind man names Bartimaeus. One morning this poor, helpless, and hopeless blind man sat along a busy road. When he heard great commotion he asked, “Who is coming?” In the confusion, a crowd passed him by without an answer. He grabbed the skirt of a passerby and cried out, “Who is coming?”

The stranger jerked away but answered that Jesus was passing by. And Bartimaeus cried out to the Lord (Mark 10).

So many people have never cried out to Jesus. So many have never considered Jesus. How important it is for each person to acknowledge Christ and make a decision to follow Him; to accept the salvation that He offers to everyone. Do not turn from Him. Receive Him and follow Him. It is the most critical decision to having eternal life in Heaven.

## CELEBRITY CIPHER

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“ H Z Y V N Y B R J W B X P O Y P J W M O Y  
B V P Y E U W V H B U J O G Y , ‘ H Z B R ‘ U R Z Y  
D W O V R W X J O C O V S ? ‘ O J W C Y P R Z Y N  
T W R Z . ” — F W N Y P O B V K Y X X E W U U

Previous Solution: “I firmly believe in what Stephen Hawking said — that if we don’t get off this planet, we’re going to go berserk.” — Jolene Blalock

TODAY’S CLUE: C s i n b e r f







# Combatting the crisis: Opioid addiction in the U.S.

Substance abuse disorder has challenged north central Indiana much like the rest of our country for more than a decade. The prevalence of fentanyl – a synthetic pain reliever that is 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times more potent than morphine – in our communities has contributed to historic levels of fatal overdoses in parts of our region. The addictive properties of opioid-based prescriptions cause physical and psychological dependence. Although these powerful pain relieving drugs are a key part of a patient’s recovery, with proper medical supervision, withdrawal can cause addiction in anyone. Substance abuse disorder does not discriminate. People of all walks of life can fall victim to the addictive properties of these medications, and the fall out and consequences associated with overdose can affect a community in many ways.

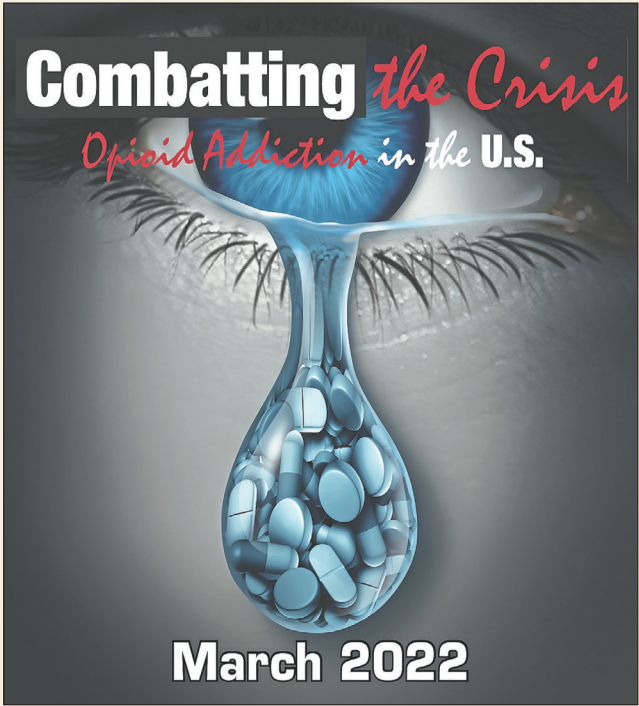
The opioid crisis affects everyone. Every community is unique. That is why Paxton Media’s Central Indiana News Group (CING) is publishing this five-part series each Wednesday until April 6.

Each community you will read about is trying their best to tackle addiction and prevent people from overdosing. For the past 10 years, state legislators, federal officials and local leaders have worked tirelessly to enact change in their communities. There have been crackdowns on pharmaceutical companies that misled the public and medical professionals about the side effects of their opioid-based drugs and incentivised doctors to prescribe their drugs. Law enforcement helped prosecute pill-mills and offices who over prescribed these drugs within our region. Churches have stepped up to the plate to provide services for families torn apart by addiction and substance abuse disorder. Communities have recruited and opened recovery homes and addiction services in their towns to help people dealing with addiction. Courts have implemented alternative sentencing practices – giving people suffering from substance abuse disorder a second chance to get help and avoid jail time. First responders have begun carrying nalcant and naloxone, two opioid overdose reversing medications, to save people’s lives. Communities have even made these overdose antidotes available to their citizens for free to help them save loved ones and strangers.

Beating this crisis will take a team effort. Each community within our coverage region – from the Huntington Herald-Press to the Wabash Plain Dealer, Peru Tribune, Frankfort Times and Chronicle-Tribune – can learn something valuable with collaboration. Our papers will be bringing you stories about their county’s success and failures. We will look at the way each community is approaching the crisis and talk to leaders to see how each community can improve its approach.

We hope this series helps bring awareness to the issues going on in our backyards. We hope this section will inspire every reader to help out and to think about substance abuse disorder in a different way.

We can’t stay complacent as people continue to die of overdoses in our communities. With collaboration, each community can do more to bring an end to the opioid crisis.



Photos by JARED KEEVER / jkeever@perutribune.com  
Jamie Rogers stands in the dining room of Peru's All Things Are Possible recovery house in January. Rogers, a recovering addict, had been living in the house for about six months as of January as she worked to put her life back together.

## Miami County confronts ‘perfect storm’ in the opioid epidemic

### Recovery programs, court system and law enforcement all respond to ongoing crisis

By JARED KEEVER  
jkeever@perutribune.com

When Jamie Rogers was arrested last year on drug charges, she started down a path she hopes will finally break the hold that heroin and other opioids had over her.

“I don’t think I would be sitting here today,” she told the Tribune in January, recounting her last arrest and how it led her to Peru’s recovery house.

Seated in the front room of the West Second Street home dubbed the All Things Are Possible, or ATAP, House, Rogers recounted the history that led her to where she is today.

“I didn’t think I would ever be a heroin addict,” she said.

But a history of abuse of other drugs and what she called a “toxic relationship” led her to trying the drug that she says so controlled her life that she could think of little else.

“Before I knew it, that’s what my life consisted of,” she said. “And when I tried to stop, I got sick.”

Rogers is not alone.

**The problem**

Her story is not unlike the hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions, of those in the United States who have found themselves hooked on the powerful drugs.

Data from the United State Department of Health and Human Services says that, in 2019, an estimated 10.1 million people aged 12 or older misused opioids.

“Specifically, 9.7 million people misused prescription pain relievers and 745,000 people used heroin,” a fact sheet on the department’s website says.

It is drug use that has taken a deadly toll.

The United States Centers for Disease Control says that between 1999 and 2019, nearly 500,000 people



**ABOVE:** Rogers makes herself a cup of coffee in the kitchen at All Things Are Possible as her friend Carrie Boling looks on. **BELOW:** Boling, another resident at the recovery house, does her laundry in the house’s basement.



died from an opioid overdose. In 2019, alone, more than 70 percent – nearly 50,000 – of overdose deaths involved an opioid. Opioid deaths, including those caused by heroin, prescription opioids, like OxyContin, and synthetic opioids, like fentanyl, have increased over six times

since 1999, the CDC says.

The federal agency hasn’t yet published data beyond 2019. And while deaths through that year for heroin and “commonly prescribed opioids” show signs of plateauing, or

See EPIDEMIC, page A7

## TREATMENT APPROACHES FOR DRUG ADDICTION – PART TWO

BY NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE

*Editor’s Note: This fact sheet continued from last week, discusses research findings on effective treatment approaches for drug abuse and addiction. If you’re seeking treatment, you can call the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA’s) National Helpline at 1-800-662-HELP (1-800-662-4357) or go to <https://findtreatment.gov/> for information on hotlines, counseling services, or treatment options in your state.*

**How are medications and devices used in drug addiction treatment?**

Medications and devices can be used to manage withdrawal symptoms, prevent relapse, and treat co-occurring conditions.

■ **Withdrawal.** Medications and devices can help suppress withdrawal symptoms during detoxification. Detoxification is not in itself “treatment,” but only the first step in the process. Patients who do not receive any further treatment after detoxification usually resume their drug use. One study of treatment facilities found that medications were used

in almost 80 percent of detoxifications (SAMHSA, 2014). In November 2017, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) granted a new indication to an electronic stimulation device, NSS-2 Bridge, for use in helping reduce opioid withdrawal symptoms. This device is placed behind the ear and sends electrical pulses to stimulate certain brain nerves. Also, in May 2018, the FDA approved lofexidine, a non-opioid medicine designed to reduce opioid withdrawal symptoms.

■ **Relapse prevention.** Patients can use medications to help re-establish normal brain function and decrease cravings.

Medications are available for treatment of opioid (heroin, prescription pain relievers), tobacco (nicotine), and alcohol addiction. Scientists are developing other medications to treat stimulant (cocaine, methamphetamine) and cannabis (marijuana) addiction. People who use more than one drug, which is very common, need treatment for all of the substances they use.

■ **Opioids:** Methadone (Dolophine®, Methadose®), buprenorphine (Suboxone®, Subutex®, Probuphine®, Sublocade™), and naltrexone (Vivitrol®) are used to treat opioid addiction. Acting on the same targets in the brain

as heroin and morphine, methadone and buprenorphine suppress withdrawal symptoms and relieve cravings. Naltrexone blocks the effects of opioids at their receptor sites in the brain and should be used only in patients who have already been detoxified. All medications help patients reduce drug seeking and related criminal behavior and help them become more open to behavioral treatments. A NIDA study found that once treatment is initiated, both a buprenorphine/naloxone combination and an extended release naltrexone formulation are

See TREATMENT, page A7



Photo by Kevin Delvecchio/Unsplash

## Life’s not always a day at the beach

Navigating life can be difficult, especially in the challenging times we’re experiencing. When you want help, the Grant Blackford Mental Health team is here to provide professional support to help you deal with mental health, substance abuse or other personal or family challenges you’re facing.



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# EPIDEMIC

From page A6

even decreasing slightly, the category of “other synthetic opioids” continues a dramatic climb. Taken together, it means that deaths of all opioids combined also continue to climb.

Between 2018 and 2019, for instance, the CDC says that prescription opioid deaths decreased by 7 percent. Heroin involved deaths dropped by more than 6 percent during that same period. But synthetic opioid deaths jumped by more than 15 percent for an overall increase of more than 6 percent for all opioid deaths.

Numbers out of Miami County in recent years mirror that general trend.

The county health department says that in 2017 and 2018 there were four overdose deaths in the county each of those years. In 2019, there were two. In 2020, there were five, and in 2021, six.

In Peru, the city police department tracks closely the number of overdose – or “suspected overdose” – calls officers are dispatched to.

Assistant Police Chief Feller said they also track how many doses of Naloxone – an easily administered drug that can reverse the effects of opioid overdose – they administer each year.

In 2016, the first year officers started carrying the drug, they went on 14 calls and administered 21 doses. Numbers waned for a few years, Feller recounted as he read off the stats during a January interview with the Tribune. In 2017, there were seven calls and 10 doses administered. In 2018, nine calls and 16 doses followed by six calls and seven doses in 2019.

“And then we explode,” he said. Officers saw 14 calls and administered 27 doses in 2020, and then 19 calls and 26 doses in 2021.

By the third week of January, Feller said, officers had responded to two calls and administered three doses.

Federal authorities posit that the opioid crisis and the deaths associated with it have come in three “distinct waves.”

The first wave began with increased prescribing of opioids in the 1990s, with overdose deaths involving prescription opioids (natural and semi-synthetic opioids and methadone) increasing since at least 1999,” the CDC website says.

The second, generally thought to have begun around 2010, saw deaths rise as a result of heroin use.

“The third wave began in 2013, with significant increases in overdose deaths involving synthetic opioids, particularly those involving illicitly manufactured fentanyl,” the CDC says.

That fentanyl market, “continues to change,” the agency says, with illicitly manufactured, powerful fentanyl now being found in combination with other drugs, including heroin, cocaine and counterfeit pills.

It’s what Feller called a “perfect storm.”

“When I was young in my career, we rarely saw heroin,” he said.

Years ago, methamphetamine was a big problem, Feller recalled. And while it still is a problem, law enforcement and legislators worked to choke off the supply

## “I’ve seen families who are just devastated by addiction”

**ANGIE BEVER,**  
Director of Miami County  
Community Corrections

of ingredients with which users would “cook” the drug on their own.

As those laws started to show results, the prescription opioid wave, followed by heroin, seemed to replace some of the methamphetamine use, Feller said.

### A new way of thinking

It hasn’t gone unnoticed and it’s brought significant changes.

“We have evolved to treat these patients for overdose as though they have a disease,” Feller said.

The same could be said for much of the rest of the criminal justice system.

As addiction problems continued to plague courts and jails, jurisdictions around the country began adopting what are often called “drug courts.”

These days, such courts are lumped into a broader category that is often referred to as “problem solving courts.” Their general purpose is aimed at reducing recidivism and getting people help rather than simply punishing them.

“Problem-solving courts began in the 1990s to accommodate justice involving individuals with specific needs and problems that were not or could not be adequately addressed in traditional courts,” the State of Indiana’s website says. “ Problem-solving courts seek to promote outcomes that will benefit not only the justice involved individual, but the victim and society as well. Thus problem-solving courts were developed as an innovative response to deal with individuals’ needs, including drug abuse and mental illness. Results from studies show that these types of courts are having a positive impact on the lives of justice involved individuals and victims and in some instances provide cost-savings for jails and prisons.”

In Miami County, that began back in 2014.

Miami County Circuit Court Judge Tim Spahr told the Tribune in January that “stakeholders” in the county first approached him about a drug court shortly after he took office in 2012.

“We started what we called the Community Based Treatment Program,” he recalled. “It wasn’t a state certified program at that point.”

Unsure of whether it would work and weather the county could bear the administrative costs of the fully certified program, they opted to start slow.

“We wanted to see how it would go,” he said.

After three years, they paused, took a look at their numbers, he recalled, “We said, ‘OK, we are not seeing as many people get (re-)arrested.’”

They continued on, achieving state certification in January 2019.

Since the start of the full program, he said, they have admitted 41 people into the program. Eight have been terminated, he said, and 14 have graduated.

“Last time we checked ... we



Photos by JARED KEEVER / jkeever@perutribune.com

A syringe sits on the ground in a parking lot in downtown in January.



A member of the Peru Police Department drops syringes found in downtown Peru into a “sharps container” kept in the back of his vehicle.

only had one-person re-arrested,” he said.

The program, he explained, is generally administered one of two ways.

Those accused of a drug-related crime, upon agreement of the prosecutor’s office and the person’s attorney can plead guilty, be adjudicated as such and have their sentence suspended as they work to complete the program.

In other cases, they can plead guilty, the court will “stay” the entry of conviction, Spahr explained, upon which they enter the program and then can have the case dismissed upon graduation.

But what they are signing up for, when they enter, is not easy.

“Phase I is pretty intense,” says Angie Bever, the director of Miami County Community Corrections and administrator of the local drug court. “The focus is on stabilization.”

“Initially when they are admitted into drug court we get started pretty quickly,” she said. “Our goal is to have them in treatment immediately.”

That continues for months, she explained, with four to five days a week in some sort of treatment “programming,” twice-a-week drug tests, and home visits for those who are on home detention.

While perhaps slightly less intense, the additional phases don’t necessarily get easier. Those in the program end up seeking employment, getting issues with their driver’s license resolved, and working to reunite with children if they’ve been removed from the home.

They also work to resolve other underlying issues.

“I think we are finding that therapy is a key component to dealing with this population,” Bever said. “Many of them have trauma and many of them have mental health issues.”

Bever, who has worked in Community Corrections for 20 years, has come to recognize addiction as a “cycle” that affects not only individuals, but families.

“I’ve seen families who are just devastated by addiction,” she said.

It’s a cycle that Spahr agrees is difficult to break, and one that

both he and Bever saw as reason enough to try something beyond simply locking up offenders.

Spahr said it was worth questioning whether there was an alternative.

Bever seems to agree.

“My philosophy is always: ‘If what you are doing isn’t working, what are you out to try something new?’” she said.

### Recovery

Arrests weren’t breaking that cycle for Rogers, either.

The last arrest in 2021 wasn’t her first. She’d been to jail before.

“And everytime I went, I went right back to it,” she said.

The pull of the drug is strong, not only because of its addictive properties, but because the pain of detoxing from it is so great, including crippling bouts of nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

“There would be times when I am sweating so bad,” she said as she recalled such an episode.

“I need something, just a little bit,” she said she would tell herself. “But it’s never a little bit.”

Heroin was typically what she would try to get, she said, but if she couldn’t find it she would try for pills.

Now, though, she hopes those days are behind her.

As of January, she had been at the ATAP House for six months.

Her legal troubles still pending, she was hopeful that she would be officially accepted into the county’s drug court in early February.

Already, though, she had managed to get a job, a car, insurance, and even reunited with a daughter that she hadn’t seen in four years.

Those types of promising first steps, or perhaps others like achieving a high school equivalency, are important on the road to the ultimate goal of recovery, Bever says.

“To me that’s a success,” she said of the GED example. “I am learning to celebrate the small things.”

For Rogers, as she fights her way back to a more stable life, she is learning to appreciate things, too, including herself.

“This is the first time in my life that I have done it for myself,” she said.

# TREATMENT

From page A6

similarly effective in treating opioid addiction. Because full detoxification is necessary for treatment with naloxone, initiating treatment among active users was difficult, but once detoxification was complete, both medications had similar effectiveness.

■ Tobacco: Nicotine replacement therapies have several forms, including the patch, spray, gum, and lozenges. These products are available over the counter. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved two prescription medications for nicotine addiction: bupropion (Zyban®) and varenicline (Chantix®). They work differently in the brain, but both help prevent relapse in people trying to quit. The medications are more effective when combined with behavioral treatments, such as group and individual therapy as well as telephone quitlines.

■ Alcohol: Three medications have been FDA-approved for treating alcohol addiction and a fourth, topiramate, has shown promise in clinical trials (large-scale studies with people). The three approved medications are as follows:

■ Naltrexone blocks opioid

receptors that are involved in the rewarding effects of drinking and in the craving for alcohol. It reduces relapse to heavy drinking and is highly effective in some patients. Genetic differences may affect how well the drug works in certain patients.

■ Acamprosate (Campral®) may reduce symptoms of long-lasting withdrawal, such as insomnia, anxiety, restlessness, and dysphoria (generally feeling unwell or unhappy). It may be more effective in patients with severe addiction.

■ Disulfiram (Antabuse®) interferes with the breakdown of alcohol. Acetaldehyde builds up in the body, leading to unpleasant reactions that include flushing (warmth and redness in the face), nausea, and irregular heartbeat if the patient drinks alcohol. Compliance (taking the drug as prescribed) can be a problem, but it may help patients who are highly motivated to quit drinking.

■ Co-occurring conditions: Other medications are available to treat possible mental health conditions, such as depression or anxiety, that may be contributing to the person’s addiction.

The best treatment programs provide a combination of therapies and other services to meet the needs of the individual patient.

## How are behavioral therapies used to treat drug addiction?

Behavioral therapies help patients:

- modify their attitudes and behaviors related to drug use
- increase healthy life skills
- persist with other forms of treatment, such as medication

Patients can receive treatment in many different settings with various approaches.

Outpatient behavioral treatment includes a wide variety of programs for patients who visit a behavioral health counselor on a regular schedule. Most of the programs involve individual or group drug counseling, or both. These programs typically offer forms of behavioral therapy such as:

- cognitive-behavioral therapy, which helps patients recognize, avoid, and cope with the situations in which they are most likely to use drugs
- multidimensional family therapy – developed for adolescents with drug abuse problems as well as their families – which addresses a range of influences on their drug abuse patterns and is designed to improve overall family functioning
- motivational interviewing, which makes the most of people’s readiness to change their behavior and enter treatment
- motivational incentives

(contingency management), which uses positive reinforcement to encourage abstinence from drugs

Treatment is sometimes intensive at first, where patients attend multiple outpatient sessions each week. After completing intensive treatment, patients transition to regular outpatient treatment, which meets less often and for fewer hours per week to help sustain their recovery. In September 2017, the FDA permitted marketing of the first mobile application, reSET®, to help treat substance use disorders. This application is intended to be used with outpatient treatment to treat alcohol, cocaine, marijuana, and stimulant substance use disorders. In December 2018, the FDA cleared a mobile medical application, reSET®, to help treat opioid use disorders. This application is a prescription cognitive behavioral therapy and should be used in conjunction with treatment that includes buprenorphine and contingency management. Read more about reSET® in this FDA News Release.

Inpatient or residential treatment can also be very effective, especially for those with more severe problems (including co-occurring disorders). Licensed residential treatment facilities offer 24-hour structured and intensive care, including safe housing and medical attention. Residential treatment

facilities may use a variety of therapeutic approaches, and they are generally aimed at helping the patient live a drug-free, crime-free lifestyle after treatment. Examples of residential treatment settings include:

■ Therapeutic communities, which are highly structured programs in which patients remain at a residence, typically for 6 to 12 months. The entire community, including treatment staff and those in recovery, act as key agents of change, influencing the patient’s attitudes, understanding, and behaviors associated with drug use. Read more about therapeutic communities in the Therapeutic Communities Research Report.

■ Shorter-term residential treatment, which typically focuses on detoxification as well as providing initial intensive counseling and preparation for treatment in a community-based setting.

■ Recovery housing, which provides supervised, short-term housing for patients, often following other types of inpatient or residential treatment. Recovery housing can help people make the transition to an independent life – for example, helping them learn how to manage finances or seek employment, as well as connecting them to support services in the community.

*Next week: Part Three*

**If you’re seeking treatment, call the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA’s) National Helpline at 1-800-662-HELP (1-800-662-4357) or go to <https://findtreatment.gov/> for information on hotlines, counseling services, or treatment options in your state.**



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0900

NOTICE OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS  
Notice is hereby given the taxpayers of Wabash County, Indiana, that the proper legal officers of the Wabash County Council will meet on Monday March 21, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. EST at the Wabash County Courthouse meeting room on the second floor to consider the following Additional Appropriation requests in excess of the budget for 2022.

Motor Vehicle Highway Personal Services	\$2,000.00
Purdue Extension Services Personal Service	\$1,000.00

3/4/2022  
Wabash County Auditor  
Marcie Shepherd  
HSPAXLP.03/09/2022

0900

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE  
By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me, directed from the Clerk of Superior Court of Wabash County, Indiana, in Cause No. 85D01-2109-MF-000667, wherein U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Trustee for the CIM Trust 2018-R6 Mortgage-Back Notes, Series 2018-R6 was Plaintiff, and Carl Smith a/k/a Carl R Smith, et al., were the Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree, with interest and costs. I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder on the 12th day of April, 2022, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. of said day, at the Wabash County Sheriff's Department, 79 W Main St., Wabash, IN , the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Wabash County, Indiana:

The following described real estate situated in Wabash County, State of Indiana, to-wit:

Part Out Lots numbered Twenty-nine (29) and Thirty (30) in Tipton's Addition to the Town of Lagro, being contained entirely within the boundaries of a tract of land now (or formerly) owned by Rodney D. Stouffer and Lora J. Stouffer as recorded on page 93 of deed record 269, and being more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the southeast corner of said Out Lot number Twenty-nine (29), marked by an iron rebar stake; thence South 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West (assumed bearing), along the south line of said Out Lot, 203.50 feet to the southeast corner of a 0.60 acre tract of land as recorded on page 458 of deed record 302 in said Recorder's Office; thence continuing South 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West, along said south line, 107.83 feet to an iron rebar stake with a plastic cap stamped LS80040428 situated 2.17 feet east of the southwest corner of said Out Lot number Twenty-nine (29) and the POINT OF BEGINNING; thence continuing South 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West, along said south out lot line, 249.67 feet to an iron rebar stake with a plastic cap stumped LS80040428 situated 66.00 feet east of the southwest corner of said Out Lot number Thirty (30) thence North 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East 181.16 feet to an iron rebar stake with a plastic cap stamped LS80040428; thence North 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East, 172.22 feet to an iron rebar stake with a plastic cap stamped LS80040428; thence South 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 Seconds East, 77.30 to an iron rebar stake with a plastic cap stamped LS80040428; thence South 86 degrees 38 minutes 49 seconds East, 77.59 feet to an iron rebar slake with a plastic cap stamped LS80040428; thence South 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East, 99.32 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

Containing 0.90 of an acre, more or less.

State Parcel No. 85-11-27-404-037.000-004  
More Commonly known as: 100 Webster, Lagro, IN 46941  
Township: Largo

Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws. All sales are subject to any first and prior liens, taxes and assessments legally levied and assessed thereon. Neither the Sheriff nor the Plaintiff in this case warrants either expressly or implied any title, location or legal description of any real estate sold at the sale. Any prospective bidder should obtain their own title evidence before making any bid on any properties subject to this sale.

DATE: January 28, 2022

/s/ Brian K. Tekulve  
Brian K. Tekulve (30882-49)  
Law Office of Gerald M. Shapiro, LLP  
4805 Montgomery Road, Suite 320  
Norwood, OH 45212  
(513) 396-8100 Fax: (847) 627-8805  
btekulve@logs.com

Ryan Baker, Wabash County Sheriff

The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street address published herein  
hspaxlp

0600

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0900

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

WABASH NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE  
Sheriff Sale File number: 85-22-0004-SS  
Date & Time of Sale: Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.  
Sale Location: Wabash County Sheriff's Department basement, Miami Street entrance, 79 W Main Street  
Judgment to be Satisfied: \$15,642.28

Cause Number: 85C01-1902-MF-000140  
Plaintiff: Bank of America, N.A.  
Defendant: Tammy L. Hurst, AKA Tammy Hurst, AKA Tammy L. Larson, Michael J. Larson, C. Lavonne Lautzenheiser, Pathfinder Services, Inc., United States of America acting through the Rural Housing Service or successor agency, United States Department of Agriculture, Bank of America, N.A. and Jefferson Capital Systems LLC

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me, directed from the Clerk of Superior/Circuit Court of Wabash County, Indiana, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said DECREE, with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder at the date, time and location listed above, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate, a certain tract or parcel of land described as follows:

Lot numbered One (1) in the Plat of Third and Maple Addition to the Town of North Manchester, Indiana, according to the recorded Plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 8 page 1 in the Office of the Recorder of Wabash County, Indiana.

Commonly Known as: 306 WEST 3RD STREET, NORTH MANCHESTER, IN 46962  
Parcel No. 85-03-32-304-127.000-002

Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws. This Notice shall also represent service of Notice of Sale of the above-described real estate upon the owners, pursuant to requirements of IC 32-29-7-3.  
\* An entire Sheriff's Sale may be cancelled due to inclement weather or other county emergencies. If the entire Sheriff's Sale is cancelled, each parcel will be cancelled. Each parcel will be assigned to the next available sale (normally 2 months from original sale). This will allow compliance with Indiana Code concerning posting, publication, and serving time frames. Also, new Sheriff's Sale fees will be assessed and the parcels will be automatically re-advertised. The plaintiff will be responsible for the new fees and advertising costs.

Attorney: Nicholas M. Smith  
Attorney Number: 31800-15  
Law Firm: Manley Deas Kochalski LLC  
Contact Number: (614) 220-5611


Ryan Baker, Sheriff of Wabash County  
By: Connie Rich, Administrative Assistant  
Phone: (260) 563-8891

Township of property location: Chester  
Common street address of property: 306 West 3rd Street, North Manchester, IN 46962  
Property tax ID: 85-03-32-304-127.000-002

The sheriff's office does not warrant the accuracy of the commonly known street address. It is the buyer's responsibility to research the legal description and associated legal filings  
hspaxlp

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IN THE CLASSIFIEDS



Opinion

SPEAK UP

How to contact your legislators:

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http://young.senate.gov/contact

**U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.**  
B85 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
202-224-4814  
http://braun.senate.gov/

**U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-District 2**  
419 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
202-225-3915

**State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17**  
Indiana Senate  
200 W. Washington St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
1-800-382-9467  
Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

**State Rep. Craig Snow, R-District 18**  
Indiana House  
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To email any Indiana lawmaker, go to this website: [www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl](http://www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl)

LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to [news@wabashplainedeal.com](mailto:news@wabashplainedeal.com) with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.



DAILY SCRIPTURE

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

Deuteronomy 6:4-5

U.S. must tread carefully as it increases sanctions on Russia for Ukraine invasion

A little more than a week into Vladimir Putin’s unprovoked and brutal invasion of Ukraine, Russia is isolated at the United Nations, hobbled by unprecedented economic sanctions and stalled in its conquest by the inspiring resistance of Ukrainians.

Yet Russia retains a substantial military advantage and is pressing on with its “special military operation,” despite the cost in innocent human lives and the displacement of a million refugees. On Thursday, Putin told French President Emmanuel Macron that Russia would achieve its goals in Ukraine “no matter what.”

Ukraine’s vulnerability has prompted calls – and not only from Ukrainians – for military intervention by the United States and its NATO allies to arrest the Russian onslaught. Andriy Yermak, a member of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky’s administration, wrote in the New York Times this week to plead for more assistance, including the enforcement of a no-fly zone over Ukraine.

To its credit, the Biden administration continues to ratchet up pressure on Russia while proposing more aid for Ukraine. President Biden reportedly will ask Congress for \$10 billion in new aid to Ukraine over and above the

\$1.4 billion already provided.

About 20 countries, including members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, are sending weapons into Ukraine to fight the Russian military.

On Thursday, Biden also announced new sanctions on more than a dozen Russian oligarchs and their families. It is possible that stronger sanctions and an infusion of military hardware will help the Ukrainians to continue their resistance. Faced with the prospect of a long and costly occupation of Ukraine, Putin might relent in his aggression, agree to a significant cease-fire and ultimately withdraw his forces. Stronger sanctions might also make it harder for Russia to menace other nations, including NATO members.

The proposal for a no-fly zone, however, is one that Biden and his advisors are right to reject. The reason is simple: Such a zone would be meaningful only if the U.S. and its allies were willing to enforce it by shooting down aircraft that violated it.

Targeting a Russian plane over Ukraine would involve direct hostilities between the U.S. and Russia, as would the deployment of American troops to assist in the defense of Ukraine, another option

Biden has ruled out, including in his State of the Union address last Tuesday.

If it were a NATO member, Ukraine would benefit from Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty, which says that an armed attack on one alliance member will be considered an attack against all. Biden cited that distinction in his speech when he said: “Our forces are not going to Europe to fight in Ukraine but to defend our NATO allies in the event that Putin decides to keep moving west.”

Yet it isn’t just because of NATO that Biden is unwilling to deploy U.S. forces in Ukraine or approve a no-fly zone against Russia. A direct military confrontation between the two nuclear superpowers would be terribly, existentially dangerous, even if Putin hadn’t announced recently that he was directing Russian nuclear forces to be placed on “special combat readiness.”

It’s understandable that Ukrainians would want the U.S. and its allies to do more to help repel the Russian invaders. But a confrontation between NATO and Russia could increase the possibility of a catastrophic conflict that would be global – and unimaginably deadly – in its consequences.

*This editorial was first published in the Los Angeles Times.*



LETTERS

Are there inspired leaders in America today?

It is manifestly apparent that America needs a prophet today, that is, a wise leader who can sift the wheat from the chaff, the truth from all the claims and assertions, and the proper direction from all the self-aggrandizing prescriptions. America needs a Moses who can stand up to all the lies and oppressions, and lead out in a peaceful and enlightened direction. America needs someone like Martin Luther King today, but who, what, where, and how?

One can learn about prophets by reading the Bible, but also the works of other great prophets like Confucius, Zoroaster, Muhammad, Buddha. Because of great religious leaders like these, we tend to think all prophets are founders of flocks of religion. But there are a couple of other classes of prophets in history. We might call these two groups secular prophets and national prophets. Secular prophets are worried about people whose views of life have become very narrow and excessively private due to a lack of knowledge. National prophets see everyone in all flocks in trouble. We have forgotten, too, that many of the great “religious” prophets were also secular prophets and prophets of nations. Today, we certainly have a

vestige of original prophetic leadership in the chief pastors of our many churches. Many parishioners follow those leaders like true prophets, keepers of the ancient flame of authority and righteousness. But church prophets are devoted mainly to their flock and devoted to others outside their flock mainly as prospects for conversion to the flock.

On the other hand, secular prophets and national prophets are life-long learners turned teachers. These other kinds of prophets do not go to church very often, because there is not always much to learn there.

The very ancient religious people were much more broadminded and holistic-minded than religious people are today. They accepted as prophets those who made discoveries in science, and particularly health science. The most humane God of all, the best heavenly parent of all, they reasoned, wanted to help people survive and be well. So, if we think they were on to something, health- and healing-consciousness, including social and emotional healing, must be taken as a sign of a true and great prophet, someone like Jesus.

A prophet of nations necessarily knows about the law, and particularly the foundational law of democracy, the system of government set up by the faith-motivated founders of Rome, Greece, Israel, and America. A prophet of

nations necessarily knows about history, about the way society tends to go when current trends fall outside of reason and law. A true prophet is virtually always opposed to monarchy, oligarchy, and aristocracy because those systems of government are self-avowedly discriminatory. They are based on the idea that some people are made better than others in their souls, in their skins, in their families.

A prophet is often very critical and comes to judging everything roundabout since it has become clear society has moved away from its responsibility to decide between what is good and what is not good. Current society says “It’s all good.” The prevailing philosophy says that anything that stands in the way of pure liberty is bad. If measures to curb pestilence are promoted, those measures, though good, are called evil and people and institutions promoting them are called evil too.

A prophet leaves a record of his/her views, admonitions, correctives, judgments and encouragements. These are generally ignored until they are fulfilled in spades, and then people start paying attention to the teachings.

It’s time to look for prophet-leaders who care about religious matters, secular matters, and national matters. Our current leaders are not doing so well.

**Kimball Shinkoskey**  
Woods Cross, Utah

The cost of Russian war

An immediate question facing Americans today is the economic effect of war in Ukraine. As I write, it is not clear how the Russian invasion of Ukraine will proceed. However, it is impossible not to see echoes of Hitler’s occupation of the Sudetenland in the late 1930s or Saddam Hussein’s 1990 invasion of Kuwait. The primary difference appears to be the willingness of much of the developed world to actively oppose autocratic nations invading democracies. This makes the 1990 experience more salient to understanding the likely economic effects of this war.

The choice of what economic or military sanctions to pursue is largely dictated by the practicality of armed intervention, and the belief that failure to

act will lead to worse outcomes. Both NATO and the European Union members have concluded that significant sanctions are in order. This reflects a reasonable belief that Putin has far larger territorial interests than Ukraine and, if left unmolested, will pursue them.

Whether or not the United States takes direct economic action, Americans will face some economic effects of a war in Ukraine. We cannot avoid some pain from Putin’s aggression. Our choice is only how to direct the economic consequences so that it has the maximal effect on Russia, while minimizing damage to ourselves and our allies. That choice necessarily involves targeted economic sanctions.

Thus far, the United States, NATO and European Union nations announced sanctions consisting of two major parts. The first of these targets financial transactions for individual members of the Putin regime, their families and businesses. This is important because it places personal pressure on those who are directly involved in the invasion of Ukraine. Doubtless they have personal assets in Russia, but this would prevent them from accessing funds in banks across the developed world.

Modern banking and intelligence permits these sort of asset seizures, which can be used to compensate Ukrainians who are financially damaged by the invasion. It means the family members of the Putin regime who are in college or working overseas will see themselves cut off from support. This sort of sanction is new, so is hard to fully assess how effective it will be.

The second immediate sanction was Germany’s refusal to certify a second major natural gas pipeline, Nord Stream 2 from Russia. Russia has used its considerable oil and natural gas reserves to cause more volatile energy prices over the past several years. This is likely designed to make sanctions more politically difficult for western democracies. However, the German government, which will be most economically affected by these sanctions, made a clear statement this week.

Foreign Minister Anaelena Baerbock said, “For us as German government, it was important to show that for a free and democratic Ukraine, we are willing to also accept consequences for our national economy. Peace and freedom in Europe don’t have a price tag.” I would disagree slightly; there is a price tag to peace and freedom, but it is far lower than that of the broader war she is trying to prevent.

These first sanctions are only the beginning. Should the invasion continue or move westward, Putin faces restrictions on international banking transactions, as well as targeted import/export controls and travel. We have the capacity to place much more severe hardship on Russia. Its ability to withstand severe economic sanctions for long is doubtful.

Russia is a poor country. It has 144 million people, but an economy that is now only slightly larger than Florida. Since 2013, Russia’s economy has shrunk by 35 percent, which constitute Great Depression-level economic declines for close to a decade. Putin invades Ukraine in part to deflect criticism of its government for a failing economy.

In 2021, per capita GDP in Russia was a little over \$10,000 per person, which is below the U.S. poverty line. In fact, after adjusting for inflation, the Russian standard of living is today below that of the United States in 1940. Putin’s frustration at being perceived as leader of a small, decrepit and failing nation is wholly understandable. It is all that and worse.

Russia’s armed forces are powerful only because they have nuclear capacity and are surrounded by weaker nations. It is worth noting that on March 2, 1991, one U.S. Army division destroyed the equivalent of 10 percent of Russia’s current force of main battle tanks in perhaps two hours. That was an elite Russian-trained Iraqi unit whose radio operators spoke Russian during the battle.

In a fight between the Russian Army and the Texas National Guard, I’d bet heavily on the Texans.

Not only are Russia’s tank numbers modest, its most modern equipment is of the same vintage that Saddam used in 1990-91. This is not tactically important; Russia can beat Ukraine in a war. However, the weakness of Russia’s conventional forces makes it more, not less, susceptible to sanctions. Many of the tanks massed along the Ukrainian border were manufactured in the early 1970s by Soviet factories. The current invasion of Ukraine will seriously weaken the Russian military even if it never fires a shot.

Neither our choice of sanctions or Russian weakness will ultimately insulate us from economic fallout. Our stock indices are down substantially over the past two weeks. While this is likely transient, it is unsurprising that investors would react to the risks of war. Over the past 30 days, the price of West Texas Crude Oil has risen by more than 10 percent. That is unwelcome, of course, but in the two months after the invasion of Kuwait, the price of oil doubled. That jump seems unlikely today, with strong U.S. energy production.

Also, we do not know if this conflict will also extend into cyberspace in ways that affect the U.S. economy. Clearly, Russia would wish to interrupt our commerce and civic life through cyber warfare. This could be very costly and inconvenient to Americans. However, we possess far more extensive cyber warfare tools than does Russia. They know that, so a broad coordinated attack on the U.S. should be viewed as an act of desperation.

Americans are fortunate to possess great economic power born from our unique liberty and relative peace. It is well that we should use that power to help preserve peace on distant shores. If history provides one lesson on this, stopping tyrants is less costly done early on, when the bill is measured in dollars, not lives.

*Michael Hicks may be reached by email at [cbdirector@bsu.edu](mailto:cbdirector@bsu.edu).*



## Manchester baseball swept by Kalamazoo in weekend series

Spartans dropped their four-game set against Kalamazoo College Hornets

By DILLON BENDER

The Manchester University baseball team was swept in non-conference action this weekend at Bishop Chatard High School in Indianapolis. The Spartans dropped their four-game set against the Kalamazoo College Hornets.

Kalamazoo swept Saturday's doubleheader by final scores of 19-6 and 13-5. KC completed the weekend sweep by taking Sunday's games by 15-1 and 8-6 finals.

Brady Perez, from Rochester, homered three more times this weekend. Perez hit a three-run homer in the second game of Saturday's doubleheader while connecting on a pair of two-run shots in the second game of Sunday's doubleheader. On the season, Perez is hitting .348 (8-23) with two doubles, five home runs, and 11 RBI.

Griffin Garwood, from

Fishers and Mt. Vernon High School, homered for the first time in his collegiate career on Sunday. Garwood hit a solo shot to right in Game 1 of Sunday's doubleheader. Garwood totaled four hits over the weekend against the Hornets. He also doubled once this weekend.

Rocco Hanes, from Osasian and Norwell High School, collected four hits this weekend. The first-year is hitting .429 to begin the season.

Harrison Pittsford, from Ellettsville and Edgewood High School, had a pinch-hit two-run home run against Kalamazoo.

First-year Mitchell Cobb, from Pendleton and Pendleton Heights High School, went 2-3 with 2 RBI in the weekend finale on Sunday afternoon.

Manchester will return to action next weekend with a three-game road trip at Berea College in Kentucky. The first game of the weekend series against the Mountaineers will begin at 4 p.m. Friday, March 11.

*Dillon Bender is the sports information director for Manchester University.*

## Badgers' Johnny Davis, Greg Gard take AP Big Ten top honors

By ERIC OLSON  
Associated Press

Wisconsin's Johnny Davis is The Associated Press player of the year in the Big Ten Conference and the Badgers' Greg Gard is coach of the year.

Davis won top honors over Iowa's Keegan Murray on Tuesday, and both were unanimous picks for spots on the AP All-Big Ten team along with Purdue's Jaden Ivey in voting of journalists who cover the conference.

Nebraska freshman Bryce McGowens is newcomer of the year.

Joining Davis, Murray and Ivey on the all-conference first team are Ohio State's E.J. Liddell and Illinois' Kofi Cockburn. Liddell is a repeat first-team

pick, and Cockburn was on the second team a year ago.

The second team is made up of Rutgers' Ron Harper Jr., Illinois' Trent Frazier, Indiana's Trayce Jackson-Davis, Purdue's Zach Edey and Michigan's Hunter Dickinson.

Davis burst onto the national stage this season after playing a total of 18 minutes and scoring eight points over 13 games as a freshman. He has averaged a nation-leading 24.1 points in eight games against Top 25 opponents, and his season average of 20 points per game is best by a Wisconsin player since 1994.

Davis scored a career-high 37 points in a win over Purdue and has two other

See **BIG TEN**, page A12

## Sources: Seahawks agree to trade Russell Wilson to Denver

By ARNIE STAPLETON  
AP Pro Football Writer

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — The Denver Broncos have finally landed a worthy successor to Peyton Manning.

Six years and a day after Manning retired, Broncos general manager George Paton agreed to send a massive haul of players and draft picks to the Seattle Seahawks for nine-time Pro Bowl quarterback Russell Wilson, two people familiar with the negotiations confirmed to The Associated Press on Tuesday.

The people spoke on condition of anonymity because the blockbuster trade, which is pending Wilson passing a physical, can't become official until the start of the new league year on March 16.

The teams cannot comment on the deal until then, but the Broncos cleverly tweeted a clip of Tom Hanks' character in "Cast Away" drawing a face on the volleyball he named "Wilson."

About an hour later, the Seahawks tweeted another

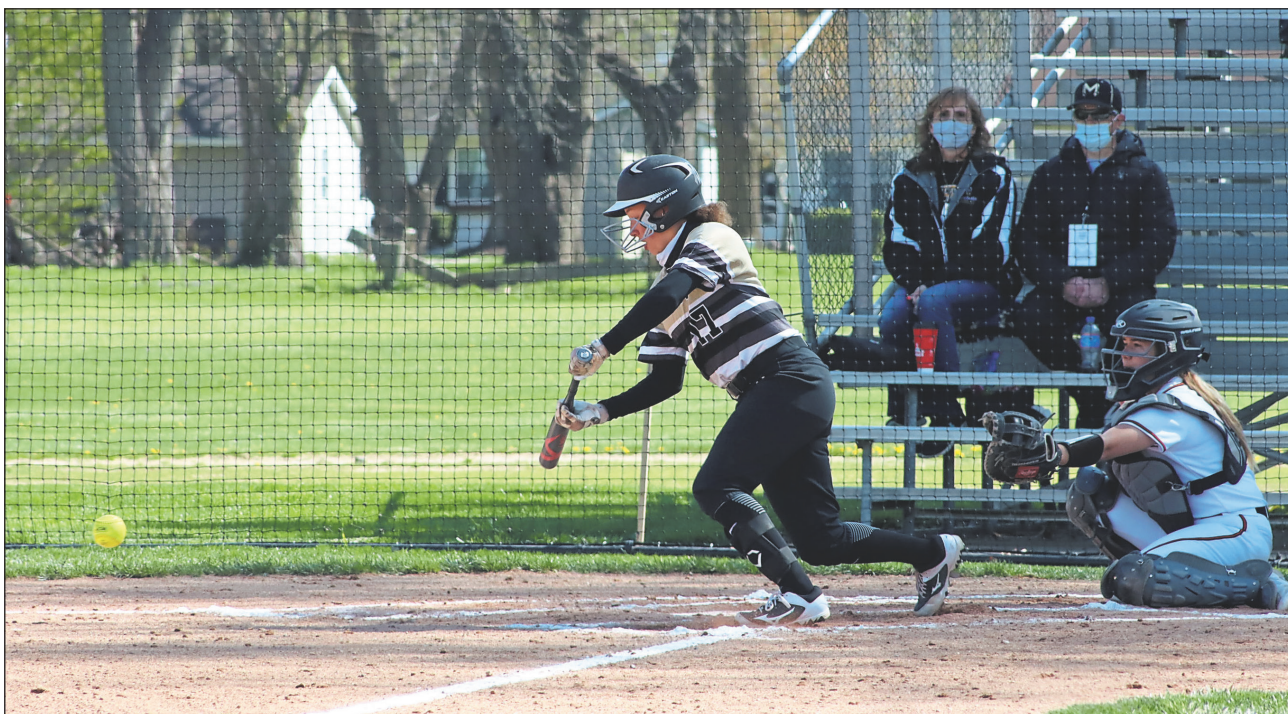
clip from that movie in which Hanks' scraggly, skinny character loses the volleyball at sea and hollers, "Wilson, where are you? Wilson! Wilson!"

Denver was seen as the front-runner for Aaron Rodgers before the two-time reigning MVP agreed Tuesday to stay in Green Bay, presumably as the highest-paid player in NFL history. Not long afterward, Paton landed a Super Bowl-winning quarterback anyway, and one who's five years younger than the 38-year-old Packers star.

The NFL Network reported the Seahawks agreed to send Wilson and a fourth-round pick to Denver in exchange for two first-round picks, two second-round picks, and a fifth-round pick, along with quarterback Drew Lock, defensive end Shelby Harris and tight end Noah Fant, the Broncos' first-round draft pick in 2019.

Since Manning retired a month after winning Super Bowl 50, the Broncos have

See **WILSON**, page A12



Provided photo

Sophomore Delayne Sanchez, from Osceola and Penn High School, led Manchester with a 2-5 effort at the plate on the day.

## Spartans softball opens season against No. 8 Indiana Wesleyan

Manchester will head to Alma College in Michigan on Tuesday, March 15

By DILLON BENDER

The Manchester University softball team took to the field for the first time this spring on Friday, March 4.

A young Spartan squad opened its 2022 season against nationally ranked NAIA member Indiana Wesleyan.

The Wildcats came into Friday's contest ranked no. 8 in the nation. IWU had also played eight games this spring. The Wildcats swept Friday's doubleheader by final scores of 11-0 and 11-2.

Sophomore Delayne Sanchez, from Osceola and Penn High School, led Man-

chester with a 2-5 effort at the plate on the day. Sanchez had an RBI single in the second game of the afternoon.

Newcomer Izzy Dittmar, from Warsaw and Warsaw Community High School, drove in the other Manchester run on the day after hitting a sac fly to center in the fifth inning of the second game of Friday's doubleheader.

Dittmar, Tama Edmonson,

Brianna Morrow and Amiyah Lyster all stole a base against the Wildcats.

Manchester will be on the road for its next doubleheader, traveling to Alma College in Michigan on Tuesday, March 15.

The first pitch against the Scots is scheduled for 3 p.m.

*Dillon Bender is the sports information director for Manchester University.*

## Manchester's Enrique Salazar is HCAC Male Track Athlete of Week

By DILLON BENDER

For the second time this indoor season, Manchester University junior distance runner Enrique Salazar has been named the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference (HCAC) Male Track Athlete of the Week, the league announced on Monday, March 7.

Salazar, from Plymouth,

broke his own school record in the 3000m on Saturday at the Ohio Northern Polar Bear Qualifier. Salazar won the race with a leading time of 8:21.05 – an improvement of nine seconds from his previous career best. His time on was also a meet and

facility record at Ohio Northern. Salazar's time was also a new HCAC record.

Salazar was the 2022 HCAC Indoor Men's Distance Runner of the Year and helped guide the Spartans to their first-ever indoor HCAC title.

*Dillon Bender is the sports information director for Manchester University.*



Provided photo

Salazar, from Plymouth, broke his own school record in the 3000m on Saturday at the Ohio Northern Polar Bear Qualifier.



Provided photo

Carley Camp, from Logansport, set a new season-best mark in the indoor finale at Ohio Northern on Saturday afternoon.

## Manchester's Carley Camp named HCAC Female Field Athlete of the Week

By DILLON BENDER

Manchester University first-year thrower Carley Camp has been named the

Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference (HCAC) Female Field Athlete of the Week, the league announced on Monday, March 7.

Camp, from Logansport, set a new season-best mark in the indoor finale at Ohio Northern on Saturday afternoon.

Camp placed second in the shot put, with her mark of 12.87m ranking her second all-time on the Manchester Top 10 listings.

## Rodgers says he will remain with Packers

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — Aaron Rodgers is planning to come back to the Green Bay Packers for an 18th season, a move that keeps the reigning MVP off the trade market and answers the question that had dominated NFL offseason discussions.

Rodgers sent out a tweet Tuesday afternoon confirming his return.

"YES, I will be playing with the Packers next year," Rodgers said. "However, reports about me signing a contract are inaccurate, as are the supposed terms of the contract 'I signed.' I'm very excited to be back."

NFL Network and Pat McAfee, the host of "The Pat McAfee Show" on SiriusXM and YouTube, had both reported earlier in the

day that Rodgers was staying with the Packers. Rodgers makes a weekly appearance on McAfee's show during the season.

NFL Network reported that the 38-year-old Rodgers had agreed to a four-year, \$200 million contract that includes \$153 million in guaranteed money. McAfee disputed the terms and said the contract wasn't signed yet,

and Rodgers' tweet backed up McAfee's account.

Rodgers' decision comes nearly a month after he won his second straight MVP award. The four-time MVP quarterback has spent his entire career in Green Bay.

He said he wanted to make an announcement on his future before the start of the

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# MANCHESTER VARSITY BOYS DEFEAT MISSISSINEWA 61-42



Squire senior Cade Jones and freshman Gavin Betten take on Mississinewa's Ty Newsom during second half victory action on Friday, Feb. 25 at MHS. Manchester ended the 2021-22 regular season on a winning note defeating the Indians 61-42.

Photo by Greg Dannacher / Plain Dealer

# MANCHESTER JUNIOR VARSITY DEFEATS MISSISSINEWA 40-39



Manchester's Kaleb Kline, No. 35, breaks up a lay up attempt by Ole Miss's Gannon Smith, No. 21, during the opening contest on Friday, Feb. 25, which saw the Squires junior squad edge Mississinewa 40-39.

Photo by Greg Dannacher / Plain Dealer

## WILSON

From page A11

churned through 10 starting quarterbacks, including a different starter in each of the last five season openers: Trevor Siemian, Case Keenum, Joe Flacco, Lock and Teddy Bridgewater, who beat out Lock last summer. The Broncos haven't been back to the playoffs since Manning retired, but they appear to have a playoff-worthy roster. New coach Nathaniel Hackett, Rodgers' former offensive coordinator, is building an offense around dynamic wide receivers Jerry Jeudy, Courtland Sutton, Tim Patrick and K.J. Hamler, tight end Albert Okwuegbunam and running back Javonte Williams. And now he has the quarterback to make it all work, one who can stack up with the likes of Patrick Mahomes, Justin Herbert and Derek Carr in the tough AFC West. Jeudy tweeted a frowning emoji upon word of Rodgers staying put, then he tweeted

a smiling emoji when word broke that Wilson was headed to Denver. The Seahawks had made it clear they weren't interested in moving Wilson unless a transformational offer came along. Seattle's offseason had mostly been focused on adjustments on defense with coaching and scheme changes, and the belief that with Wilson still at quarterback the Seahawks would remain contenders in the stacked NFC West. Last week at the NFL scouting combine in Indianapolis, coach Pete Carroll said that general manager John Schneider was receiving calls about Wilson's availability but the Seahawks weren't shopping him. The trade, though, was the culmination of more than a year's worth of buildup. Wilson first expressed his discontent with the franchise last offseason after Seattle won the division but lost in the first round of the playoffs. The acrimony got to the point that his agent publicly

expressed the teams Wilson would be willing to accept a trade to, but the quarterback and the Seahawks moved forward together for one more season. This was always the offseason that seemed to make the most sense for a potential move with Wilson, however. He has two years remaining on his current contract and a salary cap hit of \$37 million for the 2022 season. Wilson was a third-round pick in 2012 out of Wisconsin. He won the starting job as a rookie after Seattle had signed Matt Flynn in free agency. The decision to go with Wilson was one of the smartest made by Carroll. Wilson started 149 regular-season games and 16 playoff games before suffering a fractured middle finger on his right hand and missing four games last season, when he went 6-8. Seattle finished 7-10, the only losing season in Wilson's tenure. He struggled upon his return but finished strong, showing it was more of an injury-marred stretch than

an indication he was in any sort of decline. Wilson helped Seattle to its only Super Bowl title with a 43-8 thumping of Manning and the Broncos in Super Bowl 48, then lost to Tom Brady and the Patriots in the Super Bowl a year later. Overall, he's 9-7 in the playoffs. Lock is 8-13 with 25 touchdown passes and 20 interceptions over three seasons in Denver. Unless the Seahawks package their newly acquired picks and try to land, say, Deshaun Watson from the Texans should he clear up his legal issues, it appears a larger rebuild may be in play for Seattle. The Seahawks have major free agent questions with left tackle Duane Brown, safety Quandre Diggs, cornerback D.J. Reed and running back Rashaad Penny. There also have been questions about 31-year-old linebacker Bobby Wagner's future in Seattle with the Seahawks facing a \$20 million cap hit under his current contract. And now they need a starting quarterback.

## Colts TE Jack Doyle announces retirement

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Longtime Indianapolis Colts tight end Jack Doyle is retiring, the team announced Monday. The 31-year-old Doyle played all 131 games of his nine-year career with his hometown team. His down-to-earth demeanor made him one of the locker room's most respected players and even prompted a teammate to wear a T-shirt with four playing cards featuring Doyle's face and the phrase "Jack of all trades."

"Jack not only represented himself and his family with class, but represented our entire organization and the community with the utmost professionalism," Colts owner Jim Irsay said. "Simply put, Jack was one of the most well-liked players in our locker room." He was productive on the field, too. In nine seasons with the Colts, he caught 295 passes for 2,729 yards and 24 touchdowns, making two Pro Bowls. Among Colts tight ends, Doyle ranks third all-time in receptions, fifth in yards receiving and fourth in TD catches.

## RODGERS

From page A11

free agency period that begins next week. The reports of his decision surfaced the same day the Packers face a deadline whether to give All-Pro receiver Davante Adams a franchise tag. Rodgers wanted to avoid a repeat of 2021, when his status was uncertain until the start of training camp after he skipped the Packers' mandatory minicamp. The questions about his future stemmed from Rodgers' disagreements with team management at the time. Rodgers said on multiple occasions over the last few months that his relationship with team officials had improved significantly. Rodgers' plans had been the subject of much speculation ever since the Packers traded up four spots to take Utah State quarterback Jordan Love with the 26th overall pick in the 2020 draft. After referring to his future as a "beautiful mystery" late in the 2020 season, Rodgers skipped the Packers' organized team activities and mandatory minicamp in a standoff with team management.

Rodgers reported for training camp on time but acknowledged his future with the organization was uncertain. At the time, he said he wanted to have a voice in the team's decision-making process. Rodgers recently has frequently offered compliments about the moves general manager Brian Gutekunst made to improve the team. Those moves included acquiring wide receiver Randall Cobb at Rodgers' request. Rodgers said he got the sense there was better communication this season and that "I feel like my opinion mattered."

"I think he put together a really nice team, a team that could have won a Super Bowl, and he deserves a lot of credit for some of the moves that he made," Rodgers said after a January playoff loss to San Francisco. "I'm disappointed we couldn't put it together for him and the organization tonight, and I'm disappointed it's ending."

Gutekunst agreed their relationship was in a good place. "I feel really good about where we sit right now," LaFleur made a move seemingly aimed at keeping Rodgers when he brought back Tom Clements as quarterbacks coach. Rodgers had praised the 68-year-old Clements, who previously worked for the Packers from 2006-16 in roles that included quarterbacks coach (2006-11), offensive coordinator (2012-14) and associate head coach/offense (2015-16). Rodgers lauded Clements on multiple occasions over the last year. Rodgers' return would answer one giant question for the Packers as they head into a critical offseason. They're well over the salary cap and have several key players with expiring contracts, including Adams. Gutekunst has said he believes the Packers could keep Rodgers and Adams while building a contending team around them.

Gutekunst said before the NFL scouting combine.

Rodgers had a tumultuous 2021 season in a number of respects, particularly for comments he made about his vaccination status. When asked before the season whether he had been vaccinated against COVID-19, Rodgers replied, "Yeah, I'm immunized." But after testing positive during the season, Rodgers acknowledged he was unvaccinated and said he instead had sought alternative treatments. Rodgers also dealt with a fractured left pinky toe for much of the year, but continued playing at an All-Pro level. He threw 20 touchdown passes with no interceptions over his final seven regular-season games. He led the Packers to a 13-4 record and a third straight NFC North championship.

But his season ended with a disappointing playoff performance. The Packers scored a touchdown on the game's opening series but never reached the end zone again in the home loss to the 49ers.

Packers coach Matt LaFleur, Gutekunst and president/CEO Mark Murphy said after the season they all wanted Rodgers back in 2022.

"I think we've got as good a shot as anybody to win a Super Bowl next year (with Rodgers)," Gutekunst said. "He's the MVP of the league. That's our goal. I think we have an opportunity to do it right now."

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## BIG TEN

From page A11

30-point games. He scored 25 or more in six other games. McGowens was the first five-star recruit to sign with Nebraska and he made good on the hype. He's averaged 20.8 points over his last five games and leads all true freshmen nationally at 17.2 points per game.

Gard, who lost four starters from the 2020-21 team that won a game in the NCAA Tournament, coached his young team to a share of the Big Ten regular-season title. The Badgers' 24 wins are their most in five years, and they've been ranked as high as No. 8 and have appeared in the Top 25 every week since Dec. 20. They are 15-2 in games decided by six or fewer points for the most "close" wins in Division I. The 2022 AP All-Big Ten team, with players listed with school, class, height, weight and hometown ("u" denotes unanimous selection):

### First team

u-Guard – Johnny Davis,

Wisconsin, So., 6-5, 194, La Crosse, Wisconsin.

u-Guard – Jaden Ivey, Purdue, So., 6-4, 195, South Bend, Indiana.

Center – Kofi Cockburn, Illinois, Jr., 7-0, 285, Kingston, Jamaica.

Forward – E.J. Liddell, Ohio State, Jr., 6-7, 240, Belleville, Illinois.

u-Forward – Keegan Murray, Iowa, So., 6-8, 225, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

### Second team

Guard – Ron Harper Jr., Rutgers, Sr., 6-6, 245, Franklin Lakes, New Jersey.

Guard – Trent Frazier, Illinois, Sr., 6-2, 175, Wellington, Florida.

Forward – Trayce Jackson-Davis, Indiana, So., 6-9, 245, Greenwood, Indiana.

Center – Zach Edey, Purdue, So., 7-4, 295, Toronto.

Center – Hunter Dickinson, Michigan, So., 7-1, 260, Alexandria, Virginia.

Coach of the year – Greg Gard, Wisconsin.

Player of the year – Johnny Davis, Wisconsin, So., 6-5, 194, La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Newcomer of the year – Bryce McGowens, Fr., 6-7, 179, Pendleton, South Carolina.